

THE JOURNAL

March 21, 2003

50 cents (tax included)

Sports Albany High enters baseball season with high expectations [C1]

Arts Ashkenaz hosts a festival of Balkan music and dance [C3]

El Cerrito censures U.S. Patriot Act

Sept. 11 measure
for undermining
citizens' basic rights

by Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — El Cerrito has the 88th city in the country to pass a resolution opposing the Patriot Act. The city's resolution says protection of people's civil liberties.

Members of the El Cerrito Democratic Club, which asked the council to pass the resolution, said they were concerned that the act violates freedoms of speech, assembly and religion, rights to counsel and due process in judicial proceedings and allows for unreasonable searches and seizures.

INSIDE

■ Students in Albany and El Cerrito have been vocal in showing their opposition to war. Page A10

of people's civil liberties.

Members of the El Cerrito Democratic Club, which asked the council to pass the resolution, said they were concerned that the act violates freedoms of speech, assembly and religion, rights to counsel and due process in judicial proceedings and allows for unreasonable searches and seizures.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's a violation of our constitutional rights," said Rose Lernberg, a member of the El Cerrito Democratic Club.

The Patriot Act — the acronym stands for Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism — was passed in October 2001, giving the federal government broader powers of surveillance. The government can detain terrorism suspects for up to a week without charges and has expanded wiretapping

and Internet surveillance powers in terrorism cases.

Mayor Mark Friedman said it was understandable that in the aftermath of Sept. 11 people would be in favor of granting more tools to the federal government to fight terrorism, but those tools shouldn't abridge fundamental human rights.

Councilwoman Sandi Potter said history has shown that governments have taken extreme measures during times of emergency that were later regretted, such as the internment of Japanese

See CENSURE, Page A10

Tell us what you think

El Cerrito and Richmond are among cities that have passed resolutions opposing the U.S. Patriot Act. In February, El Cerrito also passed a resolution opposing the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

We'd like to get readers' reactions to the idea of cities taking stands such as these. Tell us what you think. Agree or disagree? And tell us why. Please keep your letters to 250 words or less. Letters on this topic that we receive before April 11 will be published together.

Send letters to: Letters to the Editor/City Resolutions Against War, The Journal, 4301 Lakeside Dr., Richmond, CA 94806. Please include your name, address and a daytime phone number — addresses and phone numbers are not published and are used for verification only.

Groups offer waterfront alternative

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — The Sierra Club has a plan for the city's waterfront that it says will increase sales tax revenues for the city while keeping key sections of the waterfront open for recreation.

The plan is a response to Magna Entertainment Corp.'s proposal to build a giant development around the Golden Gate Fields Racetrack.

The Magna development would include 300,000 square feet of commercial, retail and entertainment facilities, a 300,000-square-foot event center capable of holding 10,000 people and racetrack simulcast facilities expanded by 100,000 square feet. A parking structure is also proposed.

The Sierra Club and Citizens for the Eastshore State Park Plan want to scale back the project to 325,000 square feet in hotel, restaurant, retail and some office development. That would generate \$1.2 million in tax revenues for the city, more than the \$565,000 the track now produces, according to the groups.

The Sierra Club also wants to see the racetrack removed in order to connect pieces of Eastshore State Park. And it wants no development on top of Fleming Point, where the Turf Club and asphalt parking lot are now.

"We believe the track property should be incorporated into the Eastshore State Park or public open space," said Norman La Force, chair of the Sierra Club's East Bay public lands committee.

Reaction to the Magna plan has been mixed, said Ann Chaney, the Albany community development director. Some people would prefer no development at all, while others are more willing to work with what has been proposed.

Residents will get a chance to weigh in on the proposal during an upcoming community meeting 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, April 3, in Albany High School's multipurpose room, at 603 Key Route Blvd.

The meeting, organized by city officials, will include a discussion of the community's emerging objectives. City officials will respond to questions residents raised at a previous workshop. For more information, call 510-528-5760.



JOANNA JHANNA/STAFF

ARTIST Sharyl Gates began a mural at the city's Creekside Park in 2000 as a way to cover graffiti. She continues to keep it clean with

visits with brushes and paint and has enlisted neighbors and others in the effort.

Artist's mural gives graffiti the brush-off

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

CERRITO — Artist Sharyl Gates moved to El Cerrito eight years ago to really like the city, she said is filled with nice people, schools and a pedestrian environment.

She also enjoyed Creekside Park, she said, but was upset that the walls adjacent to the park were being spray painted with bad words and what appeared to be graffiti. So she grabbed a brush, some children in the neighborhood and did something.

What resulted was a mural more than long, with paintings of birds, an outdoor path and more. Gates touches up the mural and is again recruiting

people to add to the work and to repaint it when graffiti pops up.

Creekside Park could use some work. Abutting Cerrito Creek and Albany Hill, the park consists of two green fields and out-of-date playground equipment, including a merry-go-round, a slide structure and a swing set — minus the swings.

But Gates likes the park's quiet charm and close proximity to her home and regularly brings her two children there, 12-year-old Cole and 8-year-old Alexandra.

She decided a mural was in order after getting fed up with the graffiti on the walls of homes that back up to the park. "My son was just starting to read and I thought 'This is all I need to see, all these bad words on the wall,'" said Gates, 45.

Gates herself painted a pathway with trees on the wall. The rest of the mural is made up of tic-tac-toe-like grid patterns with individual paintings inside each square. The paintings are of the natural world: flowers, a rabbit, mushroom, fish, snail, duck, salamander, spider, birds, bees and more.

The paintings are arranged so that the things that live on the ground such as fish or flowers are on the bottom of the mural; birds and bees are at the top.

In the summer of 2000, Gates had nearly 40 children working with her at various times and knocked on doors to get neighborhood residents involved. On the side is an acknowledgment of the companies that supplied the acrylic and housepaints for

the job: Ace Hardware and Gateway Paints.

"It's kind of impressionistic-looking because it's got a lot of huge, fast, big strokes and stuff," said Gates.

Within the past few months, Gates has painted over new graffiti. And after getting permission from the homeowner, she began creating a new mural on an adjacent wall.

That section of the mural, painted by Gates with help from local children, consists of a grass field, blue sky and flowers.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Gates realized her future was in art when she received a scholarship to attend the Art College of Design in that city.

See MURAL, Page A10

Albany gets street repair program off the ground

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

BALY — Half a million dollars will be spent on street repair this summer, heralding a new era for the city: an annual street repair program.

Albany's three streets will

receive an asphalt overlay, and sections of 30 other streets will receive a slurry seal treatment that fills in cracks and helps prevent further deterioration.

The city's infrastructure is old,

and

poor.

See PAVEMENT, Page A10

Mid-year school cuts lower than expected

By Kara Shire
STAFF WRITER

Mid-year budget cuts signed by Gov. Gray Davis this week will cost the West Contra Costa school district about \$700,000, well below the \$2.5 million district officials had projected.

School board President Pat Player said reductions in staff, overtime, substitute teachers and

other cost-savings already instituted this year will make up for the mid-year reductions.

Next year's budget cuts are expected to be far more severe. School district officials are projecting \$12 million to \$14 million in reductions for the 2003-2004 school year.

Several hundred students, parents and teachers packed a

Wednesday night school board meeting at Pinole Valley High School. Waving pink slips and signs in the air, they protested proposed cuts to elective courses and teaching and counselor positions.

"I ask, I beg, and I plead with you, save our schools, save our teachers, and save our counselors," said a teary-eyed Nita

Sisamouth, a sophomore at Middle College High School.

Speakers at the sometimes raucous meeting asked board members to consider retirement incentives for employees, a reduction in staff development days or a decrease in administrative salaries.

See SCHOOLS, Page A10

Library column

■ You can find a world of languages at your local branch. Page A5

New column

■ Suzanne Conrad welcomes us to join "Shoreline Walks." Page A5

Martin Snapp

■ Doing the right thing isn't always clearcut. Page A3

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IN BRIEF

Albany

Students direct 'Arsenic and Old Lace'

The Albany High School Theater Ensemble will present the second of two student-directed shows, "Arsenic and Old Lace," tonight at 8 p.m., Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 5 p.m.

The theater ensemble was created in 1993 by a group of students who contributed their own money to establish a theater program at Albany High. It has since become one of the largest and most successful clubs in the school. The group puts on two productions a year, one in the fall with an outside director (hired with proceeds from ticket sales), and a student-directed show in the spring. Supervised by Albany High art and theater teacher Sarah Samonsky, the shows are managed, acted and produced by students.

Admission is \$10 general, \$5 for students and seniors. For details, call 510-558-2500, ext. 2579, or e-mail theaterensemble@hot-mail.com.

Seniors can learn about legal assistance

A staff attorney for Legal Assistance for Seniors (LAS) will present a timely and informative program on the group's services to Alameda County seniors on 1:30 to 3 p.m. Thursday, March 27, at the Albany Library, a branch of the Alameda County Library 1247 Marin Ave.

The speaker will cover elder abuse, housing, income, health care, incapacity issues, citizenship and grandparent caregiver issues, as well as give an overview of the services of the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP). There will be time for questions. The event is wheelchair accessible, and refreshments will be provided by Friends of the Albany Library.

For more information, call Library Senior Services at 510-745-1499 or 510-745-1491.

Translator-poet featured at library

John Oliver Simon, a Berkeley poet and teacher who also is a widely published translator, will be the featured poet at the Albany Library's First Thursday 7 to 9 p.m. April 6 in the Edith Stone Room. Simon's most recent book is "Caminante: A Narrow Road into the Far South."

Second Wednesdays a drop-in poetry writing workshop, for all ages, is led by Alison Seevak. The next event is 7 to 9 p.m. April 9, also in the Edith Stone Room.

Second Saturdays, Seevak leads a drop-in poetry writing workshop for grades 4-8. The next one is 2 to 4 p.m. April 12.

All three events are free. Light refreshments will be served. The Albany Library is at 1247 Marin Ave. For details, call 510-526-3720, ext. 20.

El Cerrito

PageTurners read 'Secret Life of Bees'

El Cerrito High School's book club, the Page Turners, will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, at the school, 540 Ashbury Avenue, room 604. The group will discuss the book "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd. For more information, call Paula Gocker at 510-524-9560.

Friends of ECHS present Casino Night

The El Cerrito High School casino night and silent auction is set 7 to 11 p.m. Friday, March 28, at El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. There will be food, music, dancing, a silent auction, games and prizes. The event is presented by the Friends of El Cerrito High School. Tickets are \$25, \$40 for two, and can be purchased in advance or at the door. For details, call Janet McKnight at 510-525-3272.

Volunteers invited to help plant trees

Volunteers are being sought for a tree planting project at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 22. Members of The Friends of El Cerrito Trees and volunteers will plant street trees in the parking strips on Richmond Street between Potrero and Stockton avenues, with help from workers in the city's maintenance department.

The project is funded through a grant from California ReLeaf. Information on tree planting and tree care will be provided before and during the planting. Refreshments will be served around noon. For details, call 510-527-2402, e-mail Info@ECTrees.org or see www.ECTrees.org.

Kensington

Celebration benefits building, programs

The Kensington Community Council's 15th Annual Spring Celebration will be held 3:30 to 7 p.m. Sunday, March 23, at the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. There will be hors d'oeuvres, desserts, fine wines and nonalcoholic beverages.

The Millennium Strings will perform, and there will be a silent auction of work by local artists and authors. Child care, including a light meal and entertainment, will be available for children ages 3 to 11. Attending the event costs \$25; children are free.

Proceeds from the fund-raiser will benefit the maintenance and renovations of Building E and Kensington Park, as well as the expansion of the recreation program and the Kensington After-School Enrichment Program. Eugene J. Millstein & Associates Real Estate at 264 Arlington Ave. and Andronico's Market are underwriting the event.

To donate items for the silent auction, call Danielle Power at 510-524-6737. For more information, call Vida Dorroh at 510-527-3169.

Preservation awards nominations open

Nominations are being taken for the National Preservation Awards, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Winners will be honored at a conference in Denver, Colo., Sept. 30 through Oct. 5.

Individuals, businesses, nonprofit organizations and agencies that have helped save a part of American heritage during the past three years may be nominated.

Information: Call 202-588-6236 or visit www.nationaltrust.org.

CORRECTION

A March 14 story about the McBride School of Irish Dancing should have said that dancers from the school would perform at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 24 at the Eagles Club in El Cerrito.

WILLS & TRUSTS

PROBATE

510 521-3361

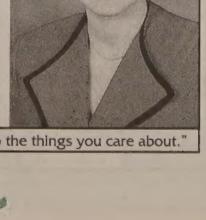
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ALBANY POLICE

Monday, March 10

■ **THEFT** — A business on the 700 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that thieves stole two power tools and fled in a silver vehicle. They were gone when officers arrived.

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — Officers located a dark blue '94 Chevrolet on the 900 block of Adams Street that had been reported as stolen from Albany on March 8. It was not damaged but both license plates were missing. They did not have anyone in custody and the owner was notified.

■ **ATTEMPTED ROBBERY** — At about 10:30 p.m. an Albany man reported that while he and his wife were walking on the 1000 block of Solano Avenue two subjects, described as male adults, pulled up to them in a dark gray Honda hatchback. The passenger, who was described as about 18 years old, wearing a dark leather jacket and an earring, pointed a gun at the couple and demanded money. The driver also had a gun. The man's wife ran for home and the vehicle was last seen traveling north on Madison Street. It was gone from the area when officers arrived.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANTS** — At about 11:30 p.m. officers observed a 27-year-old Albany man near Gilman Street and San Pablo Avenue who was known to have outstanding Berkeley warrants for petty theft in the amount of \$5,000. He ran when he saw the officer but was apprehended and arrested. He was transported to Santa Rita Jail.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A resident on the 1000 block of Stannage Avenue reported that thieves had stolen her gray '84 Oldsmobile Cutlass. Two days later her son located the car in Richmond and drove it home.

■ **ROBBERY** — At about 12:30 p.m. a bank on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that they had just been robbed by a subject described as a male adult, about 5-foot-8, with black hair and a goatee, wearing blue jeans and a white shirt. He was last seen traveling north on San Pablo Avenue on foot and was gone when officers arrived.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — Officers arrested a 23-year-old Albany man near Madison and Castro streets for outstanding warrant from 2001 for disorderly conduct.

■ **THEFT** — A resident on the 1000 block of Peralta reported that thieves stole three mosaic stepping-stones from her front yard during the night. There were no witnesses.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — At about 11:30 p.m. Officers responded

to reports of a subject walking down the middle of San Pablo Avenue and yelling. Officers contacted the 24-year-old El Cerrito man and found him to be intoxicated. He was arrested for disorderly conduct, cited and released.

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — Vallejo police located a red '98 Acura Integra that had been stolen from Albany on March 8. It was not damaged but both license plates were missing. They did not have anyone in custody and the owner was notified.

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — Police at Contra Costa College reported locating a dark blue Honda Civic that had been stolen from Albany on March 10. There was minor damage to the car and they did not have anyone in custody. The owner was notified.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT, RECOVERY** — During the night thieves stole a red '95 Toyota pickup parked on the 1400 block of Thousand Oaks Avenue. It was located in Richmond about 6 p.m. It was not damaged and Richmond police did not have anyone in custody. The owner was notified and picked up the vehicle at the scene.

■ **THEFT** — A resident on the 1100 block of Stannage Avenue reported that someone had stolen mail from her mailbox, opened it and then threw it into her neighbor's garbage. There were no witnesses.

■ **VEHICLE VANDALIZED** — Vandals smashed all the windows and punctured all the tires of a red Chevrolet parked on the 900 block of Filmore Street. There were no witnesses.

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■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — At about 2 a.m. officers contacted two people walking in the middle of San Pablo Avenue and taking roadway cones. The 21-year-old Albany man and the 25-year-old Richmond man were found to be intoxicated. They were arrested for disorderly conduct, cited and released.

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DOUG DURAN/STAFF

The art of the book

OLD Salah Laigo of Richmond watches as artist Yesin Sayan's helps her make a handmade book during the Richmond Art Open House and Family Day, held Saturday, March 15. The day was a free event for families from all over to learn about the exhibits and educational offerings. For information on these, call the center at 510-620-6772.

Learning respect for high school freshman English

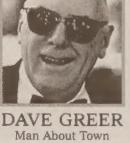
ESTION: WHAT DO Shirley Dangerfield and have in common?

Very little except both went "back to" Rodney went to make a name, and I am not sure whether there was anything going on.

Most of you, I have read stories about kids graduating from high school unable to write. I have also heard people complain that new students can't compose a sentence, a paragraph.

They do not set well with us, so I went to Albany to see what kind of writing our money is buying. This is the first of columns in which I relate experiences in real life with real teachers.

My impressions: getting to get an idea of all of English, I visit where Gloria Sims ninth-graders. She is teaching for 22 years. She has nine freshman English, all with essentially the curriculum. Like most teachers, Sims has constructed the show on the class is starting to from Edmond Rosane de Bergerac, a comedy set in the 17th and popular since first



DAVE GREER

Man About Town

produced in France in 1918. The students have been thoroughly prepared for this by discussions of character and motivation, work sheets and a "quick-write" paper.

This is just as well, because the first act is a play within a play which does not lend itself to part reading. Sims explains that while the reading dialogue appears "line by line, the action is simultaneous as in a movie."

She urges the students to, "Move quickly through the reading; don't let it bog down. Exaggerate your acting! We know each other now, so let it all hang out!"

The readings liven up, begin to suggest the scene. Soon there is a discussion of the plot: Roxanne is loved by both Cyrano, brilliant but ugly, and Christian, handsome but dull. Sims asks the students how they would choose between inner and outward beauty in their own lives knowing that they must, "live with the person for 50 years."

A wag suggests taking both, "One for night, one for day."

Another asks, "Is plastic

surgery an option?" A thoughtful third suggests that having a number of friends might help ease the boredom.

Sims allows that, "The boredom could be pretty intense" with a dull partner. There are, of course, no answers to this eternal question, but humor has drawn the youths into the core of the play and made it relevant to them. Later they will laugh and marvel at Cyrano's rapier wit, and perhaps cry, as so many have, over the play's denouement. Few will forget this experience.

The class has read "Romeo and Juliet" and will compare Cyrano and Roxanne to these star-crossed, teenage lovers. The year began with a collection of short stories followed by "The Odyssey." Later they will read "Of Mice and Men," "Catcher in the Rye" and "To Kill a Mockingbird." And students are expected to read one book on their own each quarter.

Words for vocabulary study are taken from the readings so they can be understood in context. A "word of the day" is posted in class, and there are tests. "Pugnacious" and "bellies" describe Cyrano and make the list. Those interested in SAT scores take vocabulary particularly seriously.

The almost daily "quick-write" papers are based on the readings, as is a longer composition stemming from each

work. Sims says this paper goes through, "a minimum of three drafts we call editing, revising and rewriting."

She teaches students to develop their own writing styles and become proficient in the five-paragraph analytical essay. They study grammar as problems surface in compositions.

Ninth-grade students learn research and debate skills in English, statistics and spreadsheet skills in math and PowerPoint skills in science.

These studies culminate in formal debates of bio-ethical issues at the end of the first semester. (Sample: "Should doctor-assisted suicide be allowed?") The course will end with a poetry workshop, which Sims says the students "enjoy immensely."

I enjoyed this class immensely, as I suspect Dangerfield would have, but not without voicing his usual, double-negative complaint: "I don't get no respect!" The program was plenty serious for me, and I was glad I didn't have to do the homework along with that from other classes I would carry as a student. There are advantages to being your Man About Town.

Dave Greer is a veteran newspaperman who tells the truth politely.

Any martial arts instructor explains aspects of aikido

MAIDA teaches love and harmony through martial arts. Interviewed him I challenged him to prove to me that he can teach peace — and he did. He instructed me to try to resist when I raise my arm. Of course I easily raised my arm. Of course he did to himself and let him do it. Amazingly, it was harder for him this that, he said, was the basis of peace and harmony, calm.

One can be calm, one can be calm and does much more effectively. The he teaches is aikido. It is an arm of the "budo" — literally as "way of putting up your arm." His teacher in Tokai, says "The self-protection is aware-



CLARA-RAE GENSER

Community Folk

Maida explained: If someone is striking us — verbally, physically or financially — we cannot in good conscience strike back. If we are calm and aware, we can see many options and responses. Physically, if we are doing no wrong and someone is attacking us, then they are out of harmony with the universe. For us to attack that person would put us out of harmony. It is up to the trained person to bring the attacker back into harmony.

This can be done in many ways, Maida said. A martial artist can keep that calmness, even in the midst of an attack, back into harmony.

Maida, who was born in the Bronx to a Sicilian mother and Japanese father, has taught martial arts for 32 years. He looked, unsuccessfully, for his

doing the least harm. This, he said, takes skill, talent and training.

He speaks of the need for calm reasoning and actions as a response to violence. He speaks of the Japanese idea of *shin shin toitsu*, the coordination of mind and body, the commitment that is real strength. "When a baby is holding something he really wants, it is very hard to take it away from him. He is committed in mind and body."

Another gem: If you meet someone who is trying to hurt you, it takes less effort to get away than to overpower him.

In addition to his regular classes at the Albany Recreation Center, Maida teaches relaxation at Kaiser and at Juvenile Hall.

Maida, who was born in the Bronx to a Sicilian mother and Japanese father, has taught martial arts for 32 years. He looked, unsuccessfully, for his

Japanese roots when he studied Karate in Harlem.

When he moved to California in the '70s, he found and was apprenticed to an aikido teacher who had just come from Japan. After four years he went to Japan for training with a teacher whom he visits four times a year.

Maida opened his first school in Mendocino, then he opened in Berkeley, and he now teaches adults and children Monday through Saturday at the Albany Recreation Center.

He is also a Zen Buddhist priest, the Chief Instructor of the Northern California Ki Society, a husband and the father of three.

Do you know people, places or groups in El Cerrito, Albany or Kensington that would make good subjects for this column? If so, write me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 510-525-4585. My e-mail is ergenser@aol.com.

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Time to 'do the wise thing' — whatever that may be

"No jokes today. With fighting about to break out in the Persian Gulf, I'm reminded how right Ben Franklin was when he said, 'There never was a good war or a bad peace."

I WROTE those words in 1991, at the start of Operation Desert Storm. And they seem even truer today.

Everyone seems so sure of where they stand on this war; I'm probably the only person in America who still hasn't made up his mind. Listening to Tony Blair, he makes a lot of sense. But listening to Carl Levin, he makes a lot of sense, too. But no matter what your position, you have to worry about the price.

I don't mean just blood and treasure, although we're likely to lose plenty of both. What's really frightening is that we might start turning on each other.

After all, when Franklin said there was no such thing as a good war, he was speaking during a war he wholeheartedly supported: the American Revolution. And he was speaking from personal experience: The war cost him his relationship with his own son, William, who stayed loyal to England. They never spoke to each other again.

■ ■ ■

I fear something similar is happening today. People seem to be talking past each other; it's as if they're talking about two different wars. One side sees the other as cowboys; the other side sees the first side as cowards. And on both sides, double standards rule. It's the mindset that says, "I'm idealistic; you're immoral."

For instance, the death of Rachel Corrie, the peace activist who was crushed by an Israeli army bulldozer she was trying to stop from leveling a Palestinian house, was truly tragic. What's also sad is that there are no peace activists in front of Israeli discos and pizza parlors, as symbolic shields against suicide bombers. Double standard.

And wouldn't it be nice if some of those volunteer "human shields," who are in Baghdad to protect Iraqis from American bombs, were with U.S. troops in Kuwait as symbolic shields against Iraqi chemical attacks? Double standard.

But double standards aren't



MARTIN SNAPP

Snapp Shots

confined to the left. They're running rampant on the right, too — starting with President Bush.

He promised to be a uniter, not a divider. But that went out the window as soon as he took office, despite the no-mandate result of the 2000 election. Even when Sept. 11 gave him a second chance to get it right, he stayed on a rightward tack. With both appointments and policies, it's been "my way or the highway." Double standard.

There's also a haunting fear that he might not be up to the job. I'm glad he has the certainty that comes from his religious faith; it was his greatest strength in the days after Sept. 11. Unfortunately, it's now become his greatest weakness, because it makes him — to put it charitably — uncurious about opposing points of view.

Not that his critics are any better. Both Schroeder of Germany and Chirac of France are pandering to the worst elements in their societies: ex-communists and neo-Nazis who would love nothing better than to stick it to America and the Jews. And I'm sure it isn't lost on them that every time they bash Bush, they're lessening the chances that al-Qaeda will attack Berlin or Paris. Neville Chamberlain would be proud.

To tell you the truth, I'm scared. I don't trust any of these guys — Bush, Saddam, Chirac, Putin, et al — to do the wise thing. I worry about the devastating consequences if we act, and I worry about the devastating consequences if we don't. As Yeats said, "The best have lost all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate intensity."

Say a prayer for our country — and for the world.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or e-mail msnapp@cttimes.com.

Officials recommend taking mosquito control measures

Officials from the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District are advising residents to dispose of standing water sources on their property to eliminate mosquito development and prevent the West Nile virus.

West Nile virus is primarily a disease of birds that sometimes affects people and animals. Most people who get the virus experience no symptoms.

Less than 1 percent of people infected with the virus become seriously ill from the disease. The risk of disease is higher for people 50 or older.

Officials are advising residents to follow these steps to help re-

duce mosquitoes and West Nile virus:

■ Beginning April 1, report dead crows, ravens, magpies and jays that have been dead for less than 24 hours. Call 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473).

■ Wear long sleeves and pants when mosquitoes are present.

■ Repair window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.

■ Use an insect repellent containing DEET.

Call the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District at 925-685-9301 to report mosquito problems.



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THE JOURNAL

... were it left to me to decide whether a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter.

EDITORIAL

Protest — the right way

PROTESTS ARE erupting around the Bay Area against the invasion of Iraq, with San Francisco as the focal point and smaller events happening closer to home, even in our cities of Albany, El Cerrito and Kensington.

And this is a strange, unsettled time in which there also are protests and outrage about what's happening in our schools, as districts threaten to slash deeply into programs to cut their budgets.

Moral outrage is in the air, and our young people are getting a crash course in political awareness and how to speak out. That's a good thing.

So far the protests in our little corner of the Bay Area have been peaceful. We urge continued restraint and common sense as they go on.

Students, parents and teachers crowded this week's West Contra Costa Unified School District board meeting. The waving signs were creative — one simply listed administrators' impressive salaries — and the speeches were impassioned.

Sometimes the grasp of facts was shaky, but the students spoke from the heart about their dreams for the future.

They spoke of their fears that if the proposed budget cuts come to pass, they won't be able to take the classes they need to get into state universities, and that their artistic expression will be cut off. They worried about their younger siblings' future in the school.

They pointed out that, should the public schools fail, most of their families can't afford the alternative of private school.

Antiwar protests in our area have taken the form of vigils, student walkouts — which often were combined with protest of budget cuts — and peace e-mail trees.

And though, as always happens, legitimate protesters are joined by those who simply want to cut class or cut up in general, peaceful protests will always be the best avenue toward change.

Students are anxious, El Cerrito High School principal Vince Rhea pointed out, because of the war and the budget crisis. That school set up an open mike to let students have their say about the war, and encouraged teachers to let students discuss it in class.

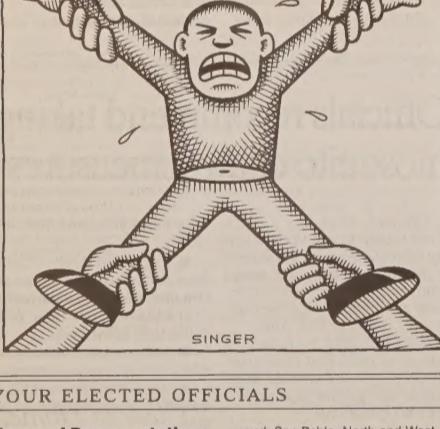
The principal has the right idea and the right response.

We urge protesters and particularly our young people to keep speaking from the heart and to remember that protests work, and that they work best, when they're peaceful.

NO EXIT

© Andy Singer

DECISIONS



YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

House of Representatives

Barbara Lee: (D-9th District; Albany, Berkeley, most of Oakland) 414 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-2661. Fax: 202-225-9817; 1301 Clay St., Ste. 1000N, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-763-0370. Fax: 510-763-6532. E-mail: barbara.lee@mail.house.gov.

Ellen Tauscher: (D-10th District; El Cerrito, Kensington) 1801 N. California Blvd., Ste. 103, Walnut Creek CA 94596, 925-932-8899 or 1122 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-1880. E-mail through www.house.gov/tauscher

Governor

Gov. Gray Davis: Constituent Affairs, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-445-2841. Fax: 916-445-4633. E-mail: governor@governor.ca.gov.

State Senate

Don Perata: (D-9th District; Albany, Berkeley) State Capitol, Room 4061, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-445-6577. Fax: 916-327-1997; 1515 Clay St., No. 2202, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-286-1333. Fax: 510-286-3885. E-mail: senator.perata@sen.ca.gov.

Tom Torlakson: (D-7th District; El Cerrito, Kensington) 2801 Concord Blvd., Concord CA 94519, 800-859-9900 or State Capitol, Room 2068, Sacramento CA 95814; 916-445-6083. E-mail: senator.torlakson@sen.ca.gov

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District; Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Rich-

mond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 101 Broadway, Richmond, CA 94804, 510-234-0211; Fax: 510-234-0213.

County Supervisors

John Giola: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231; Fax: 510-374-3249. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

Keith Carlson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd, 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd, 510-526-4141

School board members

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Karen Loong Fenton: school board president: 510-236-8460

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

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GET READY FOR NICE WEATHER?

WHAT'S THE VERNAL EQUINOX?



I THINK IT'S A FA
WAY TO SAY IT'S SPR



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Exile Saddam, Bush

Here's a new proposal for preventing war in Iraq, a serious proposal that could avert war and change the conditions that brought us to the brink of war. Quixotic? Yes. Impossible? No. Worth a try? Yes.

This proposed "time out" would change the immediate power structure, break old alliances and demonstrate that the leaders really care about their nations. If the leaders of the United States and Iraq truly want to avert this war, and prevent future wars, the leaders of both nations must make significant personal sacrifices.

Both leaders should go into exile — exile supervised by the United Nations — for five years, taking their top officers and families with them. Elections should be held in both countries and new governments installed.

Iraq must destroy all biological and nuclear weapons. The United States would stop further nuclear weapons development and sign the Kyoto agreement to stop our massive, disproportional attack on the environment.

Robin Loubal
El Cerrito

Grateful food pantry

Since 1971, the Richmond Emergency Food Pantry has opened its doors, two days each week, to distribute nutritious food packages to West County's poor, through a dedicated network of volunteers.

In the last five months, there has been an increase in the number of people who come to the pantry for emergency relief during these tough times. Not surprisingly, food expenses increased last year and there were government cutbacks, as well as donor drop-off due to attrition and economic hardship. Volunteers' concern was mounting.

Then the pantry experienced another kind of increase: the number of people and organizations that made donations. The level of giving went up during the annual fund drive. More than 300 donors from West County, as well as Alameda and Marin counties, rallied to the emergency request for financial support and gave the pantry its most successful fundraising campaign ever.

As board president of the pantry, I wish to acknowledge the generosity of these communities and to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who showed their belief in the pantry and the service it provides.

To learn more, receive food, volunteer, or donate, write to the Richmond Emergency Food Pantry at P.O. Box 2598, El Cerrito, CA 94530 or call 510-527-2783.

Robin Winton
El Cerrito

What do they say?

Perhaps it is time we had a word with the family and loved ones of Sept. 11 victims — on their thoughts and ideas on this war with Iraq. Who better to express their views on this war on terrorism?

It is really hard for me to take much stock in a bunch of kids protesting something, unless their parents are right there with them. I would venture a guess that 95 percent of Americans do not want a war, but more than 80 percent approve

of the "war on terrorism."

Count me as one in each group. A wise man once told me that opinions are like noses; almost everyone has one.

I also had a secretary who had a pet saying, "It's only my opinion, but it's true." It seems the feelings of the populace of this great United States is fast becoming of this "opinion."

Back to the gist of this letter, my sincere condolences to the family and friends of the victims of Sept. 11. Could we please hear what you feel about our president on this war matter?

Earl Cook
El Cerrito

Self-sacrificing love

Those able and willing to justify a U.S. military action against Iraq, as is proposed by President Bush and his loyal posse, are following the reasonings of their minds.

Any and all suggestions of exercising self-sacrifice, such as patience, uncertainty, or forgiveness will always fly in the face of the logic of one determined to cater to his own self-interest.

Those who make these suggestions are considered ridiculous and are often labeled self-centered liberals, peaceniks, naive pacifists — end of discussion.

The problem with these "unpatriotic" people, who are unwilling and unable to just go along with "the program," is that, in this case, they are listening to their hearts. The heart, if listened to, demands self-sacrificing love and requires no justification other than love itself.

Ron Greenstein
El Cerrito

Kudos to council

Bravo to the El Cerrito City Council for taking the time to discuss and pass a resolution in opposition to the invasion of Iraq.

It is entirely relevant to the community and sends a message to us all that we can take an active stand against this "war."

Julie Lawrence
Albany

Save Albany Bulb

I cannot believe Magna Corp.'s Rancho San Antonio development is seriously being considered.

This is the proposal for a huge hotel-conference-shopping-restaurant monstrosity at Golden Gate Fields racetracks that would completely destroy the beauty and uniqueness of the area.

The Albany landfill area directly behind the racetracks, known as the Albany Bulb, represents the very last piece of shoreline available in the East Bay. It is

visited by thousands of people with their friends and their dogs, breathing the breathtaking views, the wildlife and the roses, insects and other plants that sprout and grow.

Artists have been at work building and creating incredible out of the pieces of boats, driftwood that float to shore. Each season an exploration. Each season a new beauty there.

At the bulb, you can leave a daily life behind and bask in the feeling of being in a place far away from the city. It is truly priceless. Please it.

Betty

Dictator Bush

I am writing in response to your hawk letter I've read to do with language similar to the following: "Bleeding-heart, un-

Commie liberals have no valid argument against war; just a lot of names anyone who opposes them. The protesters are supporting a

rules his people through fear.

Well, I'm an anti-war liberal and I won't call names, I won't point out who I would like to point out the of such statements. No valid argument for their belief? Just a lot of names for the opposition? Sound like the pot calling the kettle black.

And as far as supporting who rules through fear, let me tell you I'm fully in support of ousting the aging dictator who very obviously rules them against any nation the him. So, when are we impeaching him?

C.G.

Thinking good thoughts

Prayer means different things to different people. It can be formality, affirmation or praise. It can appeal to a higher sense of the spirit of life or love, or to a sense of these qualities.

Even five minutes spent in prayer is good, loving, truthful, affirming about human existence, uplift thought to face difficult and disaster with greater equanimity and to look for solutions where there are.

Affirming the ability of our people to follow the highest sense of prayer. Praising all that is good, affirming man existence and affirming all creatures to manifest the same time each day in this

Marilyn

Meditation, prayer, focus on what is positive and hopeful, man existence and affirming all creatures to manifest the same time each day in this

This is valuable and worth consideration.

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

Just a suggestion

EL CERRITO High students Tori, 14, and Austin Gray, above, react to hypnotist Candy Cady's suggestion that they're seeing a naked audience during a show at El Cerrito High Friday, March 14. Cristiano, 14, was billed as the World's Best Hypnotist. The show is a fund-raiser for grad night



Falcon makes Albany a stop on its winter tour

SUZANNE CONRAD
Shoreline Walks

IN THE Albany plateau, in our new Eastshore State Park, my husband and I were birding on New Day when we spotted a peregrine falcon. It was one of the old pillars of the northern shore. Our amazement, we saw only dive to attack a sandpiper in the water separating one from the rest of the group. After three swoops (or dips, in birding lingo), it with the doomed sandpiper in its talons. Harassed by a gull, it flew north, setting one of the radio towers on fire.

you are looking for a peregrine watch for the distinctive helmet curving down beneath its feathered cheek. My book says they like open

wetlands near cliffs, and prey chiefly on ducks, shorebirds and seabirds. This bird is a supreme hunter, catching its prey at the bottom of vertical dives of up to 100 mph from high in the air.

Peregrine falcons were reintroduced in California after DDT nearly wiped them out in the United States, with just two nesting pairs remaining in the state in 1970. Our mudflats are one of the few remaining stopovers for birds migrating



along the Pacific Flyway, making them a great place to spot these beautiful birds.

This is the first installment of a regular column by Suzanne Conrad. A member of the Albany Waterfront Committee

and docent at Audubon Canyon Ranch, Conrad will be writing about the natural habitat along Albany's shoreline. E-mail your personal bird sightings from the park to Conrad_suzanne@hotmail.com.

EL CERRITO SCHOOL NEWS

El Cerrito Middle School
The band will play at Oregon Harding and Fairmont elementary schools on Tuesday, March 25, and members should meet at the school at 8:25; they will arrive at Portola during 8:25; their responses for the tour are still being accepted.

El Cerrito School

The Auction will be held on Saturday, March 29 at Mira Vista Community Center open at 7 p.m. for the auction; live auction begins at 8 p.m. Some of the items to be auctioned: seven nights in a Kona, Hawaii condo; two nights in an ocean room at Hill House Inn, Sausalito; tickets to the Oakland Symphony, San Francisco Opera, Philharmonic Orchestra, the Grand Ole Opry and Horse Show, and Broadway and A's games; dinner at restaurants including Fonda, Rivoli, and Beauregard's and much more. There will be complimentary hot dogs, hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer and desserts. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Information: Donna Houser, 510-233-7550.

El Cerrito High School

A new group for parents and guardians of children with disabilities focuses on peer support and advocacy skills training. Co-facilitated by an attorney/advocate and a therapist, this new group combines the parent support with parent education, to help families of children with disabilities cope with parenting demands and become successful advocates. It is sponsored by go FARI Family Advocacy & Resources, and Bay Area Community Resources (BACR). Possible topics include: coping with overwhelming feelings, resilience advocacy for busy families, how to budget cuts affect special education, and more. The group meets Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. for six weeks, from April 28 through June 2 at the BACR office, 3219 Pierce St., Richmond (near the Pacific East Mall, off Central Avenue). There's a free information session April 21. The fee is \$40/week (\$240 for 6-week session); a sliding scale is available. Information: 510-558-1222 ext. 3 pr inplaw@pacbell.net

El Cerrito school office closes earlier due to cuts

EL CERRITO — In response to budget reductions, the Albany school district office has cut its hours of operation.

The new hours are effective immediately.

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Libraries offer languages of the world

JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

Quote of the week:

"Language shapes the way we think, and determines what we think about."

— Benjamin Lee Whorf, engineer and linguist, 1897-1941

LAST WEEK, after studying (or restudying) French for six months, I decided to switch to Arabic. I used to speak some French so I think it's possible I had an inflated idea of my ability to learn another language. Or maybe it's just that Arabic is difficult to learn for someone who is a native English speaker.

In fact, on the "Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center" Web site, Arabic is in Category IV (interesting how this sounds like the description of a hurricane), along with Chinese Mandarin, Japanese and Korean. It is considered more difficult than Turkish, Hebrew, Tagalog, Thai and even Greek, which, like the phrase "rocket science," has made its way into our clichés for things that are challenging.

Consequently, I'm still learning how to say "Hello," "Goodbye," "Please," "Thank you," and "My name is Julie." The materials I'm using for this are from our library system, because, like most libraries, we have a section of foreign language books, tapes and even videos. Which is how I came to be telling you about this.

What languages can you learn using library materials? I searched in the Alameda County library catalogue using the subject search "sound recordings for English speak-

ers," since I was especially interested in the ones with an audio component, and I was surprised at the range. We offer 37 different languages, including Amharic (do you know where they speak this?), Yiddish, Gujarati, Swahili, Polish and several Asian languages. The Contra Costa County Library system has 41 languages, including Esperanto, Zulu, Persian, Welsh and Latin (presumably not a native Latin speaker).

Richmond Public offers 37 languages, including four dialects of Arabic, Khmer, Somali and Panjabi. All three of these library systems also have extensive collections of sound recordings and books for people who speak one (or more) of these many languages and are learning English.

These popular materials range from very beginning to advanced and even cover accents and the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). Each branch has its own special collection, appropriate for their community; Amharic, for instance (okay, it's spoken in Ethiopia), was requested by a Fremont patron.

For Arabic, I started with "In-Flight Arabic," a pamphlet and CD set. I think the course

is designed for someone on their way to an Arabic-speaking country, so the emphasis is on learning simple phrases, rather than reading and writing. I've been studying the first two lessons for a week, so I would have to be taking a boat for this to actually work for me, but the drills are simple to follow and the voices alternate between a man's and a woman's.

However, none of the words in the pamphlet are written in Arabic, so I've supplemented with a beginning Arabic book. Every morning I add a few more letters of the alphabet and review what I've forgotten. I'm really good at the first three letters, although I'm not sure how to pronounce them. But I'm having a good time.

READER REVIEW: Today's book review is from David and the book is the mystery "Deja Dead," by Kathy Reichs. David says the book is about "a forensic anthropologist who solves gruesome mysteries and who is always on the verge of being in danger because of her investigations."

He recommends the book because "it's the literary equivalent of CSI but much, much better. It has a great deal of information about identifying human remains and also about Montreal."

One word David would use to describe this book is "compelling."

Julie Winkelstein's column runs every Friday. Reach her at the Albany Library or at jwinkelstein@aclibrary.org

ALBANY PTA NEWS

Albany High School

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda Okamoto at ltpm@earthlink.net

March 21 and 22, 8 p.m., Theater Ensemble presents "Arsenic and Old Lace" by Joseph Kesselring, AHS Little Theater, Tickets \$10/adults, \$5/students and seniors.

March 23, 5 p.m., Theater Ensemble (same play)

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 28, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 29, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 30, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 31, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 32, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 33, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 34, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 35, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 36, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 37, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 38, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 39, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 40, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 41, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 42, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 43, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 44, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 45, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 46, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 47, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 48, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 49, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 50, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 51, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 52, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 53, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 54, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 55, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March 56, 5 p.m., PTA Meeting

April 3, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Room

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@scbglobal.net

March

GROWTH PROJECTIONS

The Association of Bay Area Governments has released its draft 2003 projections of how and where the region will grow in the next 30 years.

EMPLOYED RESIDENTS

County	2000	2030	Gain	% gain	Rank
Solano	179,517	305,500	125,983	70.2	1
Alameda	697,882	1,063,200	365,318	52.3	2
Contra Costa	483,898	704,740	220,842	45.6	3
Santa Clara	959,071	1,313,400	354,329	36.9	4
Sonoma	229,307	309,100	79,793	34.8	5
Napa	67,111	83,000	15,889	23.7	6
San Francisco	444,851	547,500	102,649	23.1	7
San Mateo	403,083	490,700	87,617	21.7	8
Marin	140,955	166,100	25,145	17.8	9
Bay Area	3,605,675	4,983,240	1,377,565	38.2	

JOBS

County	2000	2030	Gain	% gain	Rank
Solano	123,210	204,680	81,470	66.1	1
Sonoma	205,220	321,020	115,800	56.4	2
Contra Costa	361,110	536,410	175,300	48.5	3
Alameda	751,680	1,087,370	335,690	44.7	4
Marin	122,960	167,390	44,430	36.1	5
Santa Clara	1,092,330	1,481,670	389,340	35.6	6
Napa	66,840	88,990	22,150	33.1	7
San Mateo	395,890	526,600	130,710	33.0	8
San Francisco	634,430	815,680	181,250	28.6	9
Bay Area	3,753,670	5,229,810	1,476,140	39.3	

Source: Association of Bay Area Governments

2 million more people in 2030

■ Forecast spurs renewed call for dense development near public transit hubs

By Lisa Vorderbrueggen
STAFF WRITER

The Bay Area will add people, jobs and houses at a modest clip during the next three decades, according to new projections.

The Association of Bay Area Governments' biennial estimates show a region in 2030 with 2 million more people, nearly as many added jobs and three-quarters of a million new households.

That's enough homes to build two San Franciscos and more than enough people to triple Contra Costa County's current population.

Solano County will lead the region in percentage growth in all major categories including population, jobs, employed residents and household gains, followed closely by Santa Clara, Alameda and Contra Costa.

Rio Vista, Dublin, Dixon, San Ramon and Brentwood post the highest percentage population growth among East Bay cities. Tiny Rio Vista in Solano County quadruples.

The projections likely will rekindle the Bay Area's recurring growth debate.

For the first time since ABAG began publishing estimates 30 years ago, it now seeks to alter rather than merely predict the future.

Past projections illustrated where and how growth would likely occur based solely on trends. Historically, the Bay Area added jobs at a much higher rate than housing, forcing workers into long commutes from Central Valley areas.

The 2003 projections incorporate smart-growth policies that seek to rectify the region's persistent housing deficit, freeway gridlock and skyrocketing home prices. Smart growth shuns sprawl on the urban fringe in favor of denser home shopping and office development in city centers near public transit.

"We began to clearly see several years ago that the trend of continuing to add jobs without an adequate housing supply was not sustainable," ABAG executive director Eugene Leong said. "We must begin to close the gap."

The shift resulted in a 5,000 to 7,500 annual increase in housing production in the 2003 projections over prior estimates, Leong said.

Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties each see increased housing, while other counties show slight declines.

The ABAG executive board is expected to approve the projec-

tions Thursday night.

The question is whether predicting more houses produces more. The projections have no legal weight nor do they supplant local control over land-use. ABAG prepares them for planning purposes.

The Bay Area Council, a powerful business group, contends that the enhanced household predictions fall far short of the need.

It sends the wrong message to lawmakers and local leaders about the housing crisis, said Andrew Michael, the council's vice president for sustainable development.

The council points to the Regional Livability Footprint Project, a smart-growth initiative that calls for the region to provide housing for all workers within the nine-county Bay Area to end reliance on long commutes.

"How can we convince our legislators to commit resources and provide housing incentives if our projections don't match the need?" Michael asked.

On the other hand, perhaps the Bay Area does not need every one of those jobs, countered Contra Costa County Supervisor and ABAG executive board member John Gioia.

The region may want to consider shifting some jobs to the housing rich Central Valley, he said. "I'd like to take a closer look at what jobs would be appropriately directed to the areas that already have housing," he said.

ABAG admits the projections would house only half the expected workers. To have gone further would have risked losing credibility, Leong said.

As it is, the projections assume a \$350 million annual public investment in housing starting in 2009, as well as dramatic changes in state law.

Patience, urged ABAG president and Walnut Creek Mayor Gwen Regalia. If the projections become too ambitious, cities and counties will disregard them, she said.

"Over time, more communities will change their general plans and we'll start to see a shift," Regalia said. "It's like dieting. You can't lose all the weight in the first week. It takes time."

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COLLEGE STUDENTS AND FACULTY, joined by Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, at right in suit, demonstrated against the decision to cut funding to the community college system. The cutbacks have resulted in layoffs and the elimination of classes.

Community college cuts protest

■ Thousands angry at the \$161 million in reductions marched from downtown Sacramento to the Capitol

By Andrew LaMar
and Carrie Sturrock
STAFF WRITERS

SACRAMENTO — More than 5,000 students, faculty and advocates from community colleges across California descended on the state Capitol on Monday to protest funding cuts and fee increases.

They marched through downtown and gathered on the west steps of the Capitol to cheer calls for lawmakers to renege on Gov. Gray Davis' plans to slash community college funding by \$404 million next year.

The \$161 million in midyear reductions to community colleges passed by the Legislature last week has already sent waves of cost-cutting rippling through the system. Colleges have begun laying off instructors, shutting down programs and eliminating classes.

Davis proposes boosting class fees from \$11 to \$24 a unit. That would be a major problem for Maria Garcia, 20, of Oakland, Garcia, who works as a checker at Albertson's part-time to pay for her studies, said she would be forced to take a year off from the College of Alameda to save money, even though she is only 16 credits shy of finishing her program.

"There's no way that I could pay for school and my cost of living," Garcia said. "It would be way too expensive."

Protesters held banners and chanted "No more cuts." Some wore T-shirts that said "access denied," and others held signs that read "Dump Davis not students" and "Don't close the door on 2.9 million students please."

Assemblyman Bob Pacheco, a Republican from the Los Angeles area who has advocated loudly for community colleges, said the rally sent a clear message to lawmakers.

"These folks are going to get

up and vote against each and every one of you if you make these cuts," Pacheco said. "This is the largest rally I've ever seen at the Capitol."

Nicola Place, 44, hopes lawmakers change course. She is the transfer center coordinator at Diablo Valley College. Unless cuts are reversed, her position will be terminated June 30. She said budget reductions should be spread more evenly among all publicly funded education.

"If you're going to do it, let's make it fair," Place said. "I think that's our biggest concern."

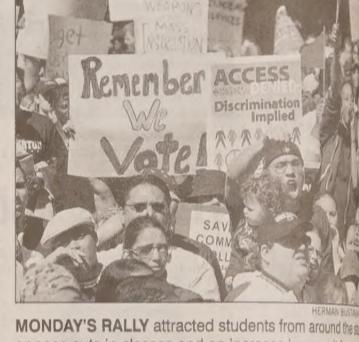
Students and faculty from all three colleges in the Contra Costa Community College District traveled to Sacramento for the rally. Faculty from Contra Costa Community College in San Pablo, an economically depressed area, donated \$950 so students could afford the train to the state capital.

District officials estimate midyear cuts approved last week will total \$6.2 million out of the college's \$115 million operating budget. The district would lose another \$15 million if lawmakers enact the governor's proposals, said John Hendrickson, vice chancellor for finance and administration.

Already this year, Contra Costa College has cut 150 course sections, or 14 percent of what it offers. As a result, the number of students enrolled in some courses has nearly doubled, said Tim Clow, senior dean of planning and research.

Los Medanos College in Pittsburg has cut 60 course sections this spring and expects to discontinue another 200 sections next academic year. The college also plans to reduce summer services for high school students seeking to catch up or get a head start on college, said Daniel Henry, interim vice president at Los Medanos.

Diablo Valley College has eliminated 75 classes this spring and plans to drop another 215 this summer and fall.



MONDAY'S RALLY attracted students from around the state to oppose cuts in classes and an increase in per unit fees.

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OBITUARIES AND FUNERAL LISTINGS

Hultgren, Teresa Wood - Friends are invited to a memorial service from 3:00 to 5:00 on Saturday afternoon, March 22, 2003, at the Bell Telephone Building of Marin, 1924 Cedar at Bonita in Berkeley. Teresa passed away on January 25, 2003. 510-848-8767

For Information on getting

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to the Community Calendar
and received Thursdays one week
prior to publication. Listings are on a
space-available basis. Mail submissions
to: APN Fields, 1969 Mountain
Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611; e-mail to
APNFields@apn.com or fax to 510-
527-5555.

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en's Social Skills and Man-
shops are offered in Albany
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information and registration fees,
527-6202.

Group meets twice a
evenings at the
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Oak Ave. The free group is
who have a parent or care-
cancer. The meeting is co-
a teen whose mother had
Details: 531-7551.

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The library is located at
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through Thursday, 6:30
8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For details,
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Oakland, presents free puppet
p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The
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puppet troupe, features
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and Down syn-
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range from fundamental to
topics, and also casual play.
is led by David Pruess,
the Senior Master title and is
top chess players and teach-
All levels are welcome
classes are provided. Call Julie
510-526-3720 ext. 19.

of California Botanical
a free Seed Plant Clinic on
everyday of the month, 9 a.m.

UC Plant pathology and ento-
will diagnose what ails

UC Botanical Garden is at
D. In Berkeley. For infor-
510-643-2755.

classes, Mondays 9:30 to
the Arlington Community
5919ngton Ave. (across from
ngton Library). Simple, clear
people of all levels. Empha-
atic and fun. Cost: \$30 for
pro-rated fees apply).
session. Details: Mel
448-9289 before 9 p.m.

Community College, 2020 Mil-
with classes in Sunrise College
business, Java program-

ming, English, ESL, statistics and Spanish
for business professionals. Classes
start at 7 a.m. and end at 9 a.m. Call
591-2800 for more information.

■ **Assets Senior Employment** offers a
job training program for income-eligible
people 55 and older living in Oakland,
Emeryville, Berkeley and Albany. Earn
when you learn. Interested in working
with children? You can receive college
credit in Early Childhood Development
while being paid. Details: 238-3554.

■ **Julia Morgan Center for the Arts**,
2640 College Ave., offers a family-friendly
program of classes, workshops
and activities taught by professional
teaching artists, all aimed at bringing
arts participation into people's everyday
lives. Classes take place at the Julia
Morgan Center for the Arts. For details,
including class descriptions, fees, and
instructor bios, call 845-8542 or see
www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **The Berkeley Adult School** offers
Adult Basic Education classes, High
School Diploma Requirement classes,
General Educational Development
Preparation classes which can be utilized
to earn a GED certificate, and
Preparation for US Citizenship classes.
The classes are free. BAS also offers,
for an affordable fee, a variety of vocational
classes and computer classes,
ranging from introduction to Computers
to Advanced Computer Applications.
Details: 644-6130.

■ **The Berkeley Senior Center**,
2393 Ellis St., offers a variety of classes.
Details: 883-5222.

■ **Interview Clinics** sponsored by Turn-
ing Point Center at the YWCA, 2600
Bancroft Way, are held on Monday
mornings from 9-11 by appointment.
30-minute sessions are \$15 for YWCA
members and \$20 for non-members.
Call 848-6370 and leave a message to
reserve an appointment time. Leave a
name and telephone number.

■ **A free CopWatch class** takes place
Monday nights from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at
2022 Blake St. near Shattuck. Know
your rights. Details: 644-0425.

■ **Berkeley Community Media**, Chan-
nel 25, offers affordable classes in video
production and editing to Berkeley resi-
dents. Free orientations designed to in-
troduce BCM to the public are held
Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 2239 Mar-
tin Luther King, Jr. Way. Details: 848-
2288 and on Sundays at 2 p.m. Details:
642-0808.

■ **Overeaters Anonymous** meet Fridays
at 1:30 p.m. at the Northbrae
Community Church, 941 The Alameda
between Solano and Marin avenues.
In Room 2—the child-care
room—parents may bring their children.
This organization is for individuals who
eat compulsively. Details: 525-5231.

■ **Toastmasters**, do it now. Stand up
and say what you mean. Come practice
Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700
Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for details.

■ **Civil Rights** activists needed. Write
the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany,
Richmond, and Kensington, P.O. Box
11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

■ **"Work Buddies":** volunteers needed
to work with people in early stage
Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-
month commitment, two to three hours
per week. Training provided. Contact
Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

■ **Psychic Healing** clinic: 7 to 9 p.m.
Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for
Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura
cleaning, stress relief; 800-642-9355.

■ **SMART project;** the Alcohol Re-

search Group in Berkeley is con-

ducting a study to compare the cost and effec-

tiveness of two kinds of substance

abuse day treatment: medical model

day treatment and social model day

treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802

and agreeing to do three interviews, in-

dividuals chosen for the study receive

free treatment at existing treatment pro-

grams. All donations are tax deductible. Details:
845-1226 or e-mail bnc@netvalue.net.

■ **Berkeley Camera Club** meet Tues-
days at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae
Community Church, 941 The Alameda,

Berkeley. Share slides and prints, learn
what other photographers are doing.

Monthly field trips. Details: 525-3565.

■ **TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly)**

Chapter CA 1294 is now meeting from

7:15-8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening at
Mira Vista UCC Church, 7075 Cutting

Blvd. TOPS is a non-profit organization

assisting men and women in weight con-

trol. Details: Betty Coates at 235-0490.

■ **Turning Point** at the YWCA, 2600
Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics

on Tuesday afternoons, or by appoint-
ment. To sign up for an appointment,

Community

■ **Berkeley Neighborhood Com-
puters**, a non-profit organization, provides
high-value and high-demand computer
technology training for disadvantaged
and at-risk individuals. The organization
seeks computers and networking equip-
ment for use for training purposes. All
donations are tax deductible. Details:
845-1226 or e-mail bnc@netvalue.net.

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ment. To sign up for an appointment,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

THE JUNIOR BACH Festival features talented youngsters such as Stephanie Mao (left) and Preben Antonsen, shown here playing a Bach piano piece. The weeklong festival has featured several concert venues and concludes this weekend with a concert in San Jose tonight, a Golden Jubilee Celebration Saturday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. in UC Berkeley's Hertz Hall; and at 3 and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 23 at St. John's Presbyterian Church in Berkeley. Admission is \$10 general, \$5 students/seniors. Information: 510-843-2224.

leave a message several days before
you would like to meet. Anne Levine
has a background in Design and Education.
For the past 10 years, she has

volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m.
to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335.

■ **English-In Action** lets you make
friends from around the world. Volunteer
as a conversation partner with a foreign
UC scholar/student for one hour weekly.
YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9716.

■ **Women's Daytime** Drop-in Center in
Berkeley; serving women who are
homeless or at risk of becoming home-
less, needs volunteers. The Center is
open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday
through Saturday. Volunteers are
needed for morning and afternoon
shifts. For details call 466-5663.

■ **A New Leaf Gallery**, 1286 Gilman
St., presents the exhibition "Kinesis"
through June 1. Artists include Susan
Pascal Beran, Zachary Coffin Bella Feld-
man, Phil Evans, Jeffery Laudenslager,
Moto Otake, Mark Oldland, John Tyler,
and Mark White. Gallery Hours:

Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call 510-525-7621

or visit the Web site at www.sculpture.com.

■ **UC Berkeley's Graduate School of
Journalism**, Center for Photography,
presents an exhibit by Mexican photog-
rapher Maya Goded, through May 1.
Coffey, recipient of the W. Eugene
Smith Fund Award, is a recent nominee
to Magnum Photos. She photographs
prostitutes and prostitution in order to
"speak about women, inequality, trans-
gression, the body and sex, maternity,
childhood and old age, beliefs, love and
unloving." A reception and public lec-
ture takes place from 6 to 7 p.m. Jan.
31 in room 105. Details: 510-642-3383.

■ **The Richmond Museum of History**
continues exhibits highlighting Rich-
mond's agricultural beginnings, indus-
trial achievements, and home-front con-
tributions during World War II. Special
exhibits and events are held throughout
the year. The museum is located in the
historic 1910 Carnegie Library in the
Old Downtown area at Fourth Street
and Nevin Ave. Call 235-5387 for more
information or to arrange tours.

■ **El Cerrito** presents Open Clay Studio
ongoing classes on Mondays, 7-9 p.m.
Experience with clay is helpful, but not
necessary. Opportunities will be pro-
vided for students to explore areas of
clay work. Demonstrations and instruc-
tion will be provided on requests. Ad-
mission: \$7.50 residents, \$9.38 nonresi-
dents. The location: Tassajara Pottery
Center, 2575 Tassajara Boulevard. For
more details call Julie at 215-4371.

■ **Alta Bates Medical Center** presents
work by members of the California Wa-
tercolor Association at its Community
Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley.

■ **SMART project;** the Alcohol Re-
search Group in Berkeley is con-
ducting a study to compare the cost and effec-
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abuse day treatment: medical model

day treatment and social model day

treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802

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■ **Turning Point** at the YWCA, 2600
Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics

on Tuesday afternoons, or by appoint-
ment. To sign up for an appointment,

volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m.
to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335.

■ **New Pictures** Gallery on Solano Av-
enue shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures
and dolls exclusively. The gallery is
open during store business hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday,
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Sunday
10 a.m. to 9 p.m. except major holidays.
Details: 527-6779.

Health

■ **Charcot Marie Tooth** support group
meets Saturdays bimonthly at West
Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave.
from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuro-
pathic disorder. Details: 524-3506.

■ **YWCA Health and Community Edu-
cation**; drop in classes in dance, fitness,
yoga, martial arts and more; University
YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370.
\$8 - \$10.

■ **Charcot Marie Tooth** support group
meets Saturdays bimonthly at West
Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave.
from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuro-
pathic disorder. Details: 524-3506.

■ **Learn Computer Applications** for the
"working" world Using Windows '95 and
'98 and Microsoft Office 2000 software,
Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Publish-
er. Class offered: Monday-Friday,
2:15-6:15 p.m. Location: Contra Costa
County Office of Education, 13925 Pablo
Ave., Suite No. 111, San Pablo.

For information call 237-0840 or visit the
web site at www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/.

■ **"What is Meditation,"** is a peaceful
and practical introduction to the basics
of meditation. The free seminar takes
place at Barnes and Nobles Booksellers,
2352 Shattuck Ave. Pragito Dove is the
facilitator. Call 644-0861 for additional
information.

■ **Emotions Anonymous:** Twelve-Step
meetings every Sunday at 8 p.m. Call
848-8226 for Berkeley location.

Literary Events

■ **Berkeley Richmond Jewish Commu-
nity Center**, 1414 Walnut St., pre-
sents Lois Silverstein, author of "Daugh-
ter." A book signing and discussion will
follow. Silverstein teaches English at
City College San Francisco. Admission:
Free. For more information, call 848-
0237.

■ **California Writers Club** (Berkeley
Branch) and the Mystery Writers of
America host a restaurant luncheon
meeting featuring noted crime-novel
writer Joe Gores, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
March 22. Open to the public. Members:
\$18, non members: \$20. For
reservations and information about loca-
tion and menu, contact cwcberk@earthlink.net or www.cwcberk.org.

■ **Berkeley Barnes & Noble**, 2352

See CALENDAR, Page A7

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Calendar

FROM PAGE A7

Shattuck Ave., present Sci-Fi author Walter Hunt at 3:30 p.m. March 22, discussing his book "Dark Path," a fast-paced space opera story. For more information, call 510-644-0861.

■ **"Words not Wars,"** the Arts of Diplomacy and Dissent with poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Rita Maran, Allen Cohen, Adam David Miller takes place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. March 25, at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists' Hall, 1924 Cedar St. The evening includes concert and conversation and live original music with piano Nicole Miller, Cello Gael Alcock, and voice Phoebe Anne. Tickets: \$10 to \$15 sliding scale. No one turned away for lack of funds. For more information, call 510-841-4824.

■ **Storytelling for Adults,** a group of storytellers and listeners, who love to listen to stories, to keep the oral tradition alive, meet from 7 to 8:45 p.m. on the first Thursday each month at the Claremont Branch, Berkeley Public Library, 1940 Berea, at Ashby. Free. For more information, call 610-644-6880; or 525-1533.

■ **The Reading Edge** is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must compete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

Meetings/Lectures

Miscellany

■ **The Bay Area-wide 18th annual Jewish Music Festival** takes place at 8 p.m. from March 22 to 29, at the First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way (at Dana). The event opens with Shlomo Bar and Habera Hativot, a pioneering world music ensemble from Israel. Advance tickets range from \$22 to \$24. The festival is a project of the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center. For tickets and information, call 925-866-9559 or visit the Web site www.brcjc.org.

■ **The North Grace Institute First Berkeley International Festival** takes place from noon to 8 p.m. March 23, at 2138 Cedar St. Attendees will have an opportunity to taste food, as well as enjoy music and dances from different parts of the world. The public is encouraged to participate in the singing and dancing and by dressing with native costumes. The opening ceremony will start at noon. For more information, e-mail baylaw1@yahoo.com or visit the Web site www.NorthGraceChurch.org, or call Manuel Juarez, chairman at 510-848-4639.

■ **Ecology Center** sponsors Berkeley Farmers' Market, at Derby Street at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday March 25. The market offers a wide range of mostly organic produce and healthy, locally-produced foods. For more information, call 510-548-3333 or visit the Web site at www.ecologycenter.org.

■ **Friendship Circle**, a Jewish club for older adults, meet 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at the Oakland Senior Center, 200 Grand Ave. The club is an outreach program of Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center. Activities include day trips, Jewish holiday celebrations, theater outings, entertainment, speaker and much more. Call 510-548-0237.

■ **Improve your speaking skills** by attending Berkeley Communicators' Toastmaster meetings, the first and third Wednesdays each month at 7:15 a.m. at Vault's Cafe, 3250 Adeline St. Call 510-233-2337 for more information.

■ **The Berkeley Camera Club** meets Tuesday evenings 7:30 p.m. at the Northgate Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more details call Don at 525-3565.

■ **Disabled American Veterans Chapter 25** meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The evening begins with a no host dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at 2068 Center St. A short business meeting follows at 8 p.m. at 1931 Center St., the Veterans Memorial Building. Price: \$3. Women who have had relatives in the US Military are invited to attend and join the auxiliary. For more details call R. DeRiti, Cmdr. D.A.V. Chapter 25, 916-372-8364.

■ **The YWCA** offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public and the great variety of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-6370.

■ **The Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics** Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together. For details, call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

■ **Berkeley Toastmasters** Club meet monthly, the first and third Thursdays at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The group specializes in developing its communication

and public speaking skills in the field of metaphysics. The group also learn from each other through short speeches. Call Odette Larde at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

■ **The Kensington Senior Activity Center** meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Details: 526-9146 or 547-1969.

■ **The YWCA** offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For details call 848-6370.

■ **SpeaSmart!** Join Beijing Express Toastmasters, The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2608 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

■ **Toastmasters Meeting:** Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave, Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for more information.

■ **Joy of Yiddish:** Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

■ **The Berkeley Communicators** Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durst. Details: 524-3765.

■ **The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group** meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. For additional information call 240-4503.

■ **Toastmasters on Campus** meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

■ **Public speaking** skills and metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

■ **"Voices of Healing"** is a group exploring the psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness and healing. The group meets on the second Friday of each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for more information.

■ **State Health Toastmasters Club** meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health Building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

■ **Higher Alignment**; 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkreis Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; 415-461-5337; \$20.

■ **Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis** Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

■ **Overeaters Anonymous**, a 12-step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

■ **TOPS**; 9:30 a.m., Mondays; Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858.

■ **Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center** and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. Details: 510-849-2568 or visit www.laena.org.

■ **Albany High School Theater Ensemble** presents Joseph Kesselring's play "Arsenic and Old Lace" at 8 p.m. March 21 and 22 and 5 p.m. March 23. The play takes place at the Albany High School Little Theater, 803 Key Route Blvd. Tickets—\$10 adults, \$5 students and seniors—are available at the door, or in advance through the box office. For more information, call 510-558-2500, ext. 2579.

■ **TOPS**; 9:30 a.m., Mondays; Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858.

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■ **Wilde Irish Productions** presents "The Importance of Being Oscar," through March 23, at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave. This is a theatrical

come and invited to join in preparation and performance. Rehearsals are from 8:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays evenings. Music is available. If you have questions, call the church office at 510-526-9146.

■ **Ducksan Distones**, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Landford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fretless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

■ **Ashkenaz**, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information.

■ **Fridays Night Folk Dancing:** 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

■ **Outdoors**

■ **The UC Berkeley Botanical Garden**, 200 Centennial Drive, Strawberry Canyon, offers a sweet sick plant clinic on the first Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon. Dr. Raabe will diagnose. Details: 643-2755.

■ **Learn to feed and care for orphaned baby birds:** house sparrows, starlings and pigeons are introduced species that are not afforded care by rehabilitation groups. You can make an important contribution in returning these species to the wild life they deserve to have. Free training and some supplies. Call YMCA 531-3042 or Lella 655-3911.

■ **Turning Point at the YWCA**, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers "Scribble Time," a technique that helps participants understand themselves and find focus. The group meets on Tuesdays by appointment and is free to YWCA members. Free training and some supplies. Call 848-6370 for additional information, call NAMI-East Bay at 510-524-1250.

■ **National Alliance for the Mentally Ill** East Bay Chapter holds its next monthly Family Support Group from 7 to 8:45 p.m. at the Claremont Branch Berkeley Library at the southwest corner of Ashby and Bonneville, one block west of College Avenue. Support meetings are free and offer family members a chance to talk with others who have a mentally ill relative. For more information, call NAMI-East Bay at 510-524-1250.

■ **National Alliance for the Mentally Ill** East Bay Chapter sponsors a support group to provide information and support to families of children and adolescents with mental illness. The next meeting is from 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 18, at Albany United Methodist Church, 980 Stannage St., in Albany. Support meetings are free and offer parent and other family members a chance to talk with others in order to share information and get emotional support. For more information, call NAMI-East Bay at 510-524-1250.

■ **Women's Cancer Resource Center** offers Support Groups throughout the Bay Area. If you are interested in attending a group, call the Helpline at 510-420-7900 during the Center's open hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 12 to 4 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays.

■ **Bereavement Support Group** meets Thursdays, 3:45-30 p.m. at Jewish Family and Children's Services in Walnut Creek. Topics include dealing with loneliness, isolation, anger and other unexpected emotions; changing family dynamics; and re-establishing connections with your community. Receive support in a warm, Jewish context. No charge (donations accepted). Pre-registration required. Call Marti Kunitik LCSW at 925-927-2000 ext. 740. This group is jointly sponsored by Simai Memorial Chapel and Jewish Family and Children's Services of the East Bay.

■ **Fibromyalgia Support Group**, sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation, holds a rap session from 12 noon - 2 p.m. Feb. 18, at Alta Bates Medical Center-Herrick Campus at 2001 Dwight Way in Berkeley. Sufferers of Fibromyalgia and related conditions, their families and friends are encouraged to attend. For more details call Deborah at 510-644-3273 or for directions call Barbara Ridley at 510-204-4503.

■ **Many Rivers Theater Project** presents "The Game of Sides," written and directed by Terry Lamb, at three Saturday performances, 3 p.m. March 22. Snacks and drinks will accompany the after-play discussion; donations will be accepted at the door. Berkeley Unitarian Fellowship at Cedar and Bonita streets, in the Connie Barbour Room. For more information and reservations, call 510-524-6950.

■ **Shotgun Players** continues its play "Oedipus Rex" by Sophocles, through March 30, at 8th Street Studio, 2525 Eighth St. Prices: \$10 Thursdays, \$12 for students, seniors/TBA, \$18 regular. For more information, call 510-704-8210 or visit the Web site at www.shotgunplayers.org.

■ **Wilde Irish Productions** presents "The Importance of Being Oscar," through March 23, at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave. This is a theatrical

come and invited to join in preparation and performance. Rehearsals are from 8:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays evenings. Music is available. If you have questions, call the church office at 510-526-9146.

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cal journey through the life of Oscar Wilde as explored through his writings. Tickets: \$20 sliding scale. For more information, call 510-841-7287. For reservations all 510-558-1381. Dinner is available in the City Club Dining Room before the show on Thursdays and Saturdays. For dinner reservations, call 510-848-7800.

■ **Learn easy international folk dances**, fun for all ages at the Albany YMCA, 921 Kains Ave. No experience necessary. Wear comfortable shoes and come prepared for a good time. Admission: Adults \$2 and \$1 for kids. Details: 525-1130.

■ **People Folkdancing** takes place on the third Sundays, 1:20 p.m. at Ashkenaz Music and Dance Community Center, 1317 San Pablo Ave. Instructor: Denise Schultz Weiss. Bring your feet and a spirit of fun. No experience necessary. An opportunity for families to dance and laugh together. Drop in for good fun and exercise. All ages welcome. Drop-in class, no registration needed. Adults \$3, children \$2. Details: 632-3713.

■ **Swing Dances Classes!** Learn East coast swing and Lindy Hop with Michael and Persephone of Shagtime Dance Instruction, on Mondays at the Work Studio, 2568 Telegraph Ave. Beginning Lindy Hop runs 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. East Coast Swing from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and beginning Lindy Hop 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, at The Beat, 2560 Ninth St. Classes run as a monthly series. Details: Michael Marano at 528-7858.

■ **Outdoors**

■ **The UC Berkeley Botanical Garden**, 200 Centennial Drive, Strawberry Canyon, offers a sweet sick plant clinic on the first Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon. Dr. Raabe will diagnose. Details: 643-2755.

■ **Learn to feed and care for orphaned baby birds:** house sparrows, starlings and pigeons are introduced species that are not afforded care by rehabilitation groups. You can make an important contribution in returning these species to the wild life they deserve to have. Free training and some supplies. Call YMCA 531-3042 or Lella 655-3911.

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■ **Opening Day**

parade to close part of

The westbound lane of Solano Avenue and the southbound lane of Jackson Street will be closed to traffic and parking from 11 a.m. until noon on Saturday, March 29, to clear the streets for the Albany Little League Opening Day parade.

San Pablo Avenue also will be closed for 20 minutes when the parade crosses it, according to Albany police.

The parade will begin at the Albany/Berkeley border on Solano Avenue and proceed to UC Village and the playing fields there. It will be possible to cross Solano before the parade reaches any given point and after.

The parade honors the boys and girls of Albany Little League and the Albany-Berkeley Girl's Softball League. Young ballplayers and the marching band The Repercussions will be featured. Legendary Cal baseball coach Bob Milano will be the Grand Marshal of the parade.

For more information: 510-525-1771.

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Local protests grew as Iraq war neared

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

Student walk-outs and vigils protesting the war in Iraq showed increasing concern in the weeks and days before the first missiles hit Baghdad on Wednesday night.

Hundreds of students have walked out of El Cerrito and Albany high schools, and hundreds turned out for a candlelight vigil in Albany on Sunday night.

Between 200 and 300 people — including families, teenagers and senior citizens — gathered at Memorial Park in Albany on Sunday for the vigil, which lasted just over an hour. It was just one of more than 6,000 vigils organized that night worldwide by Win Without War. Smaller events were held in Kensington and El Cerrito.

Holding candles protected by paper cups, many at Memorial Park stood in silence while others stood together and spontaneously sang songs, read poetry or talked about their anger or sadness over the impending war, which began Wednesday.

One woman spoke of "praying for miracles" to stop the war; others talked about getting organized by writing letters or talking to the streets of San Francisco when the bombs began to drop. They said students should

be encouraged to stage walk-outs, as they did at Albany Middle School.

"I'm proud to be part of this community," said one man. "I feel like I'm surrounded by true patriots."

One woman said people should call on their senators to bring articles of impeachment for the president, and several in the crowd responded with an enthusiastic "yes."

"Our leaders do not represent us and that should be made known," the woman said.

Berkeley resident Farideh Sedigi said the decision to go to war was made a long time ago and saw hypocrisy in the media for focusing on Iraq while torture and killings were happening in Iran. "(The government) is going for oil, not the freedom of the Iraqi people," Sedigi said after the vigil.

Nora Barrows-Friedman organized the Albany vigil in just a few days after learning about the effort from the anti-war group moveon.org. She also helped start a peace e-mail group, which can be subscribed to by e-mailing join-berkeley-albany-action@clio.lyris.net.

There will also be brief, nightly vigils at Peralta and Solano avenues starting at 7:30 p.m. Barrows-Friedman, a 24-

year-old Albany resident, also organized a "marching band for peace" using found instruments. The band was scheduled to go up Solano and down Marin avenues the night after the attack began.

The Sunday vigil, she said, "may not change the course of the way things are going but may bring neighborhoods closer together which is a pretty good step."

In addition to the Sunday vigil, there were student walk-outs at Albany and El Cerrito high schools.

Between 300 and 400 students left Albany High School around 9 a.m. Wednesday, March 12, and walked to UC Berkeley to protest. There were speeches and loud disruptions of the university classes, said senior Ana Ramirez.

Albany High students were back in class by noon. Another walkout was scheduled for noon Thursday.

Ramirez said she didn't want the country to go to war to control Iraqi oil, especially when the billions of dollars needed for the attack could be better spent on schools, many of which, including those in the West Contra Costa and Albany Unified school districts, are undergoing budget cuts.

Another student walk-out was

held at El Cerrito High School on Friday, March 7, said principal Vince Rhea. About 30 or 40 students began the walkout and were joined by about 100 other students, who simply took advantage of the situation to leave class, Rhea said.

They walked out at 10 a.m. and most were back about an hour and 15 minutes later.

The Iraqi invasion, combined with school budget cuts, have made students anxious, Rhea said. As a result, an open mike has been set up during lunch time for students to sound off on the war. Teachers have been encouraged to devote some class time to war discussions if appropriate and are discussing the issues with students during lunch.

Ramirez said he would rather have students expressing their views on campus than taking to the streets, which is unsafe and could create a disturbance.

"The biggest thing, of course, is we don't want to create apathetic kids," he said. "I think it's really important kids have opinions and are able to express them."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at lopez1@cctimes.com.



SHARYL GATES touches up the lettering on the mural designed and worked with neighborhood children in Park on March 10.

Mural

FROM PAGE A1

She spent 10 years as a singer, dancer and set and mural painter with the southern and northern California Renaissance Faires. She quit that job in 1984 to do set design and teach at the California College of Arts and Crafts.

Over the years she's also done

illustrations for magazines and newspapers and has shown her work in exhibitions.

"I've done so many things it's hard to keep track of them all," Gates said, attempting to recall some of her past work.

Currently, Gates teaches art at Harding Elementary School, does face-painting for events, is working on a second album of Latin jazz music with her husband, Jack, and has two gallery

One is a collection scenes in watercolor.

Another is a collection

life, portraits, more,

at M. Lowe's

Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley.

will be open through

With all of this

still makes time to

work at Credible

weekends, making

just a little more

neighborhood chil

"If I move away

there'll be some oth

er things to do

something happens

make it look nice

said.

Reach Alan Lopez

3578 or at

lopez1@cctimes.com

Omega High, a sm

the Richmond High

"You always tal

much you care abo

tion. But you guy

these classes. We

money to go to pr

Reach Kara Shire

2798 or at

kshire@cctimes.com

Schools

FROM PAGE A1

Many also asked the board to dip into a state-mandated reserve fund set aside for emergencies.

"It's unfair to even think of cutting all of these classes that we need to graduate," said Esmeralda Frias, a student at



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Foot

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Back

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Real Estate & Home

supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclarion, The Piedmonter

Friday, March 21, 2003

Section B

Books, classes teach architectural styles



MARK WILSON
Owning A Piece of History

Two of three parts
in my column, I discuss
the best books and
ways to learn about the various
historic architecture in
the U.S. This week, I will ex-
amine some of the most interesting
books about general historic
architecture.

For a quick overview of all
the styles of historic
architecture in the U.S., you
can't do better than "What Style
Is It?" by Allen Chambers, et
al. This slender paperback
was published by the National
Trust for Historic Preservation.

It has photos and a short
history of Medieval Overhang
style, from

and Medieval Overhang
through the 19th century.
American Heritage Press
published what is probably the
best two-volume set on
historic buildings in the U.S., "Ar-
chitecture in America" by Kidder
Peek. These hard-bound
books cover the most important
examples of architecture from
the 18th century to the 19th century.

"America's Architectural
Roots," by Upton Dell, et al., 1986,
covers the origins of the styles
that Americans imported from Eu-
rope, Latin America and Asia.

"America's Forgotten Archi-
tecture," by Tony Wren and Elizabeth
Mulloy, 1976, gives readers a
nicely illustrated survey of unusual
and charming vernacular archi-
tecture, from Pioneer Era cottages to

early gas stations.

Another two-volume set about
historic architecture is
"Buildings and Their Ar-
chitects" by William A.
Wittman, 1976. These volumes are not
illustrated as the Ameri-
can Heritage set, but just as thor-
oughly researched.

There are also some good
researching, docu-
menting and
preservation and
of historic buildings in
the States. One of the first
was "America's His-
tory and Restorations,"
1986. This is a
fully illustrated survey of
important historic homes

that had been restored and
opened to the public by that time.

The National Trust for Historic
Preservation published "All About
Old Buildings: The Whole Preser-
vation Catalog," 1985. This richly
illustrated quality paperback vol-
ume was written by Diana Mad-
dow. It gives a thorough descrip-
tion of the various techniques that
communities and preservation
groups can utilize to save and re-
store historic buildings.

Two other books about the
lesser-known aspects of American
vernacular (non-architect-de-
signed) architecture were also
published by the National Trust for
Historic Preservation.

"America's Architectural
Roots," by Upton Dell, et al., 1986,
covers the origins of the styles
that Americans imported from Eu-
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nicely illustrated survey of unusual
and charming vernacular archi-
tecture, from Pioneer Era cottages to

early gas stations.

My favorite work about
historic buildings in
America is "Lost
America," by Constance
Grieg, a hard-bound
two-volume set, which is
an impressively
illustrated survey of the
most important historic
buildings that have been
demolished.

Perhaps the best-written com-
mentaries on historic buildings in
the United States that are re-
quired reading for most students of
architecture were published
several decades ago. The first is
"Sticks and Stones: A Study of

Early Gas Stations.

See WILSON, Page B2

Classes start this month

Writer and architectural histo-
rian Mark Wilson will be offering

an architecture class, "Historic
Homes of the East Bay," at both
the Piedmont and Albany adult
schools. This course will cover
the major styles of historic build-
ings in the East Bay with slides
and handouts.

In the course, Wilson will be
couse Spanish adobes, Victorian-
era homes, Craftsman bunga-
lows, mansions by Julia Morgan
and Bernard Maybeck, Art Deco
movie palaces and other styles.

A walking tour of a historic East
Bay neighborhood is included.

The Piedmont class is
Thursdays from 7 to 10 p.m.,
beginning March 27. It will be
in room 401 at Piedmont High
School, 800 Magnolia St.; the
fee is \$65. Call 510-594-2655 to
pre-enroll.

The Albany class will be
Mondays from 6:30 to 9 p.m.,
beginning March 24. It will be
held in room 11 at 601 San
Gabriel Ave.; the fee is \$60. Call
510-559-6580 to pre-enroll.

Real Estate Spotlight:

New villa in Oakland has Tuscan feel



NESTLED INTO THE HILLSIDE on the down-slope of Oakland's Skyline Boulevard near Broadway Terrace, construction of a 5,400-square-foot Mediterranean-style villa is nearly finished. This home has a barrel ceiling, tile roof, old world cobblestone driveway and plastered walls plus four bedrooms and five baths and a three-car garage. Most rooms have views from Marin to the Peninsula. Wooden French doors open to stone terraces and a spacious private courtyard. A level area could be developed into play space or even a pool. Mature olive trees and a rock garden line the driveway.

An elevator provides access to both living levels. Towering arched iron doors capture the views of the bay. Cabinets and doors are alder; flooring is maple. Bathrooms have heated stone floors.

The upper level includes a large family room with fireplace and kitchen, both with soaring ceilings and expansive windows. This level also includes a large media room, set up for a large retractable screen and surround sound. The formal living room, dining room and reception area with square lighted turrell provide a wonderful flow for entertaining. The lower level has three bedrooms and three baths. The master suite has a huge walk-in closet, a sitting room with bar, a see-through fireplace that serves both the bedroom and bathroom, spa tub and oversized European style spa shower.

Price: \$2,498,000. Designed by Horowitz Architecture, built by Steve Jaca. Agent: Debra Dryden at The Grubb Co., 510-339-0400, ext. 208 or dryden@grubbc.com.

When moving, don't forget your kids

■ Help them adjust if you
take up roots in the middle
of the school year

BY MICHELE DAWSON
ALAMEDAREALESTATE.COM

Going through the arduous
process of buying a house may
leave you with all the stress you can
handle. But don't forget your kids.
The thought of a new house usually
brings pangs of anxiety as they

think about being the "new kid" -
especially if you're moving in the
middle of the school year.

Rest assured, yours isn't the
only family to go through this
experience. The U.S. Census Bureau
says that some 43 million Americans
moved during a one-year period
tracked from March 1999 to
March 2000.

While some 56 percent of those
families stayed within the same
county, that doesn't always spare

the kids from having to move to a
new school.

And with the real estate market
continuing to stay steady into the
first months of 2003, there are
guaranteed to be many more "new kids"
roaming the halls of schools across
the country in search of their new
class assignments.

The confusion and disorder as-
sociated with moving, packing,

See KIDS, Page B3

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California Realty

2003 Annual Awards



MARK ENGLUND/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Instant office

CAN YOU SPARE A FEW FEET ON ONE SIDE OF A ROOM? Then you can have a room makeover that provides a study or home office. This laminate countertop rests on a center base cabinet, creating twin work stations. Upper cabinets have bookshelves and a pull-down cabinet face that can hide messy supplies or keep bills out of sight. A graceful arch connects the upper cabinets and completes the built-in look of these simple cabinet components to create an attractive, functional home office.

Roof coating just prolongs inevitable

BY GENE AUSTIN

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Q My roof has asphalt shingles that are about 25 years old. A roofer has told me that I need new shingles and that the old ones should be removed. Can I get a few more years out of them, possibly by applying a roof coating?

A If you are satisfied with the appearance of the shingles and the roof is not leaking, you can probably get a few more years of use without going to the expense of applying a coating. If the roof is leaking, I wouldn't depend on a coating to stop the leaks. At any rate,

25 years is a good life span for asphalt shingles, and you should begin thinking seriously about replacing them. You should also be vigilant for leaks by going into the attic and examining the roof decking occasionally. Discoloration of the wood is a sign that water is coming through the shingles. Some of the other signs of badly deteriorated asphalt shingles are curled or broken edges, variations in color on different parts of the roof (caused by loss of the granules that coat shingles), and thick deposits of granules in rain gutters.

Q The drawers in some of our

bedroom furniture are stuck.

We think the cause is excessive dampness in our basement, resulting from heavy rains. How can we get the drawers open again?

A Drawers can stick or jam for a number of reasons, and wood swollen from dampness or high humidity is one of them. Other common causes of jamming are overfilling, and sagging or settling of the furniture. Sagging can cause the furniture to go out of square, changing the shape of the drawer opening. If dampness is suspected as the cause, running a dehumidifier to remove moisture from the air in the room is a good first step, but it might take weeks to dry out the furniture enough to get the drawers open.

Don't attempt to open a jammed drawer by jerking on the handles. The front of the drawer might be loosened or even pulled off. If a drawer above a jammed drawer can

be opened, pull it out to make sure overfilling is not the cause of the jam-up. If not, remove the contents of the jammed drawer anyway to expedite drying. Many jammed drawers can be opened at least a few inches, which permits some of the contents to be removed. If a drawer can be opened partially, grip it by the sides and attempt to work it out of its opening.

Another remedy is to put a dinner plate in a partially opened drawer and place a utility light with a 40-watt bulb on the plate. (Make sure the drawer is empty.) The bulb will generate enough heat to dry out the drawer, sometimes in a few hours.

Check the drawer frequently, although there is little danger of fire because of the bulb's moderate

See MAINTENANCE, Page B3

Wilson

FROM PAGE B1

American Architecture and Civilization," by Lewis Mumford, 1955, is a lightly illustrated but beautifully written set of essays by America's most famous architectural historian.

The second book: "Architects, Ambition, and Americans: A Social History of American Architecture," was written by Wayne Andrews in 1964. It remains one of the best critiques of the cultural and financial implications for American architecture ever published.

My favorite work about historic buildings in America is "Lost America," by Constance Grief, 1972. This hard-bound two-volume set is an impressively illustrated survey of the most important historic buildings that have been demolished throughout the United States. Its impassioned text speaks eloquently of the need for historic preservation to prevent such tragic losses in the future. The book was one of my major inspirations for becoming an architectural historian.

Mark A. Wilson is a Realtor can be reached via voice mail at 510-273-9383 or at Markw@aol.com.

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HILLS NEWSPAPERS

BERKELEY VOICE / THE JOURNAL / MONTCLARION
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Condo buying checklist

There are many differences between buying a condominium and a single-family home. Condo buyers must consider these items before committing themselves.

CC&Rs, bylaws, articles of incorporation

As you will be sharing common areas and services with others in your development, a condition of buying a condo is your understanding and agreement to a set of rules applicable to all owners in the complex. If you rent out your unit, your tenant must adhere to association guidelines or else you could possibly be responsible for the tenant's misbehavior or lack of cooperation.

CC&Rs (covenants, conditions and restrictions), along with bylaws and articles of incorporation are the basic structure and regulations for the association. For example, to maintain a uniform look, there is usually a restriction on exterior painting. This is performed by tradespeople hired by the association, not individual owners. Similarly, significant structural alterations to the interior are normally subject to prior approval by the association.

Other matters, such as limitations on running a business from the unit and loud noise after certain evening hours, are traditionally included. Exclusion of pets has been addressed by certain changes in the law, so be sure to check association written policy and laws affecting it if this impacts you. Not paying full attention to required practices could cause headaches.

Last year, a man purchased a condo and happily moved in with his longtime companion, a macaw. Shortly thereafter, a neighbor complained that he was violating association guidelines by having a large parrot. This resulted in a big upset that may still be unresolved.

Financial documents

Current budget. Go over the most recent budget for an idea of projected income and expenses. You might notice a large expense for pest control work or a new roof. Are there sufficient reserves for this?

Reserve analysis. By studying the amount of reserves and how much is planned for major repairs or capital expenditures, you may get a clue about an impending assessment of all owners to replenish funds. This could impact your desire to buy or how much to pay.

Income statements, balance sheets. Take a look at these documents to further gauge the financial health of the operation. If you were given the "latest" reports, for example, dated September 2002 and you are reading them in March 2003, be concerned about how effectively the homeowner's association is being managed. After all, once you close escrow, their problems become yours.

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olding one massive garage sale

What would it take to get everything?
 At 42 in a series of true stories in real estate.
 For note: Pat and Anet
 us 42 articles in each
 years. Here's to 10 more!

Great Garage Sale in the
 what I've named it, my
 idea of cleaning out tons
 things from my life. My
 of empty shelves, clean,
 spaces.

ers wanted all of the appliances and the piano. Shaun's tools, family photos, more books, art, a homemade lamp and a 1950s dlan they couldn't part with were stashed into two rented storage lockers.

Then, before the sale of the house closed, it was time to deal with the bulk of their belongings. Shaun called around and found a man interested in buying, in one fell swoop, everything that was left. He told the dealer that they wanted to sell it all, nothing excepted.

The dealer looked, inventoried, left to tally, returned the following day, and made an offer. On the third day, a truck and helpers arrived. Away went a ton of things, even Shaun's collections of around 400 ceramic pigs and knives of all sorts. (But he kept his 1940s Popular Mechanics and Popular Science. He's sure he'll read them one day.)

In the end, the household belongings fetched around \$5,000. Shaun also sold a precious Corvette (this was hard) and his pick-up truck.

He says that he might have gotten more money for some of the items if, for example, he had held out a few of the more unusual old knives to sell individually, but he didn't want to deal with this. He just wanted it all gone.

The family moved into their new RV in Petaluma near where Karina goes to school. Although small, it provides every comfort, including built-in beds and couch, kitchen complete with a Wolf range, full bath, water storage, furnace, air conditioner and generator.

Shaun and Ann went everything they had and moved them into sections:

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PAGE B2

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comments are welcome and should be sent to Gene Austin, the Philadelphia Inquirer, Box 861, Blue Bell, Pa. 19422. Send e-mail to gaustin@phillynews.com.

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TARPOFF AND TALBERT
True Experiences

They already have a phone line shared with a neighbor and soon they will pipe in water from a community artesian well.

Shaun grew up in a large family, the oldest of ten kids who lived nomad-like with their parents camping out, coast to coast, in national parks.

He learned the skills he and his family will need to live "off the grid" (without power) which is, as he says, "lots of work, lots to maintain."

Shaun has good memories of rural living. He talks about fishing, hunting and trapping. He tells of building various shelters and of burying potato tubers in a mound with bean and corn seeds on top.

The corn supports the bean vines, and when they are both done, the potatoes are ready to dig.

And he describes the method for attaching a house to trees, explains that he will insulate it, provide lighting.

He'll buy rights to felled oaks (about 6 cords will be needed each year) which he and Ann will split and stack for heat. Shaun will hollow out a pond, build a bath house, put up shelters and fencing for animals.

They'll have chickens and pigs and maybe a horse for Karina. When they move from the RV into their house in the trees, they'll have three times the living space. Why, they can begin collecting stuff again.

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoft are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 510-653-2050

Kids

FROM PAGE B1

home inspections, taking care of all the final paperwork, and closing up your household is likely to produce a range of emotions for you and your kids.

Personality, age effect adjustment period

A lot of how well your child will adjust, experts say, depends on his or her personality and developmental age.

"Some children are naturally outgoing and will be able to make friends immediately while some other children may take months," said Leslie Oesterreich, a family life specialist at Iowa State University Extension, a National Network for Child Care.

If your child tends to be a worrier or gets nervous easily, you'll see those characteristics exacerbated by the move process, she says.

The most important things you can do are to be understanding, acknowledging both positive and negative feelings, and to keep daily routines as normal as possible.

There are things you can do to help your child adjust to his or her new home and new school.

Once you know you will be moving, try to bring your child along when you look at houses so they understand and come to accept that the family will be moving.

Plan a farewell party for your child - this helps solidify the upcoming move in your child's mind and helps them accept reality.

Take your child to visit his or her new school. If possible, try to arrange for your child to meet the teacher ahead of time.

Introduce yourself to neighbors as soon as you move in. Your child may be able to get a head-start on making friends if you live near kids the same age.

Gather information on the

sports or other extra-curricular activities that interest your child so you know how and when to sign up.

Let your child ease into the academic aspect of school. Kids typically learn more easily when they are comfortable and at ease. Give them time to get adjusted to their new learning environment.

Encourage your child to invite new friends over to your house.

Scout out your neighborhood parks and take your kids there frequently.

When you move into your new home, begin a new keepsake and encourage your child to write about his or her hopes and expectations at his or her new home.

Once you've selected your new house, show your child where his or her room will be. Draw a sketch of the room layout and let your child take part in determining where he or she will place the furniture.

If your budget allows, perhaps help your child choose a new decor for the new bedroom. If nothing else, new paint in a bright color is an inexpensive way to brighten up the room and give your child a sense of personalizing his or her new room.

Read children's literature about moving to your kids.

It takes time

The NNCC says that it can take as long as 16 months for kids and adults to adjust to a move. It usually takes about a month after you're moved in for it to sink in that the reality of friends and familiar places are no more.

The most important thing you can do for your child as you move in the middle of the school year is to just be patient. Everyone handles stress and change differently. And be a good role model. Let your kids see and hear you express your thoughts as you sort out your own feelings about your new environment.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER.

Maxwell Park
OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2-4:30
2543 Monticello Ave

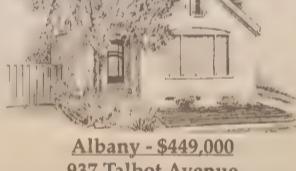


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Borri Rosenberg Arazi
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Albany - \$449,000

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Charm of the 1920's, bright, split-level 2 bedrooms/1 updated bath, hardwood floors, large updated eat-in kitchen, fireplace in living room, formal dining room with built-ins & French doors. Large laundry room off kitchen (great storage). 1 car detached garage used as a workshop with a workbench. Ideal location, wonderful property!

Jeanie

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\$429,000 • HADDON HILL CRAFTSMAN

Wonderful home minutes by foot from Lake Merritt. Great details, big kitchen, level yard w/ fruit trees, detached garage + more! FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4205

AVAILABLE

\$629,000 • GREAT PIEDMONT BUNGALOW

Craftsman w/ original details, large kitchen, formal living & dining rooms, level backyard, detached garage. Minutes to Piedmont Avenue. FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4204

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\$429,000 • GREAT BIRMINGHAM FIXER

Huge lot and huge potential, large fenced in yard w/ garden. 3 beds, 1 1/2 baths, 2 car garage plus a patio. Great neighborhood, opportunity knocks! FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4202

SOLD FOR \$651,000

\$649,000 • HADDON CRAFTSMAN

Wonderful remodeled home in prestigious Haddon Hill. Large level back yard, gourmet kitchen, separate artist studio, two fireplaces, minutes from Lake Merritt. FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#3311

SOLD FOR \$651,000

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36 CAMBRIDGE WAY, PIEDMONT

"Dave and Carla, Thank you for everything you did to help us sell our home. Not only did you oversee our home sale from start to finish, but you also got us \$32,000 over asking. WOW! Now we're buying a home out of the area and we sure wish you were the agents helping us!"

JIM AND SYLVIA VIVETTE

Double Your Expectations

FREE QUICK OVER THE PHONE HOME EVALUATION. CALL US AT 510-595-7699

Prudential
California Realty

Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

FOR THE PUBLIC

Calling All Women

The Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter has planned a mini-trade show for women interested in the process of home buying. "United We Stand-Homeownership for Women" will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, March 29. The show is held at the Network Coliseum in Oakland. Learn about home buying, credit lending and selecting a real estate professional. Children's activities are also included. There is a nominal charge for attendance, but parking is free. There is also easy access by BART. For additional information contact **Monique Washington** at 510-452-8280.

Architect For Alameda

Attend "Our Houses" in Alameda. From architecture to Victorian classics, the Alameda Museum provides lectures for everyone who loves homes. Prominent Bay area authors and historians narrate the slide lectures. This series continues through August. The next lecture in the series is "A.W. Smith: Architect," on March 27. Oakland Heritage Alliance member **Betty Marvin** offers her study of Smith and his work. According to Marvin, Smith's 27 Alameda residences showcase a range of styles. During the Victorian era he moved from Queen Anne to Colonial Revival to Bungalows. In the gallery you can view the Alameda High School Art Show. For lecture information call 510-797-0796.

Free Answers To Home Buying

Learn the answers to many home buying questions at "The Home Buying Answers Class." This free class is from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, April 5. Senior Loan Consultant **Margie Lupo** of Vintage Mortgage conducts the class. To pre-register, call the "Answers Class" hotline at 888-629-0077 x8610.

IT'S COMING!

Tech Faire 2003 is coming. Mark your calendars for Friday, May 2. Technology courses are offered on April 30 and May 1. More information is accessible on-line at www.techfaire.org.

THE LUNCH BUNCH

Monthly lunch and learn ses-

sions are a tradition at the Berkeley Association of Realtors. Attend at the BAR Auditorium on Wednesday, March 21. BAR presents "Successful People," a panel of top-producing Realtors willing to share their success secrets. To join the Lunch Bunch call the BAR office at 510-848-4288.

OAR EDUCATION

The Oakland Association of Realtors presents "45-Hours DRE Continuing Education Seminar." Earn all your credits in half a day. The seminar is at the OAR Auditorium, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, April 9. The topics include Ethics, Agency, Fair Housing and more. **Greg Shoemaker** of Old Republic Title sponsors this educational opportunity. Registration information is available by calling OAR at 510-836-3000.

NEW AGENTS

Attention new agents. If you are renewing for the first time, you do not need 45 hours of credit. You are required to complete 12 hours. For more information call REVEI at 800-582-7979.

WCR GETS CLUE

The WCR East Bay Chapter monthly meeting date is Friday, March 21. The discussion topic is "Get A Clue" on insurance issues affecting real estate in California. The meeting begins with networking at 11:30. The location is Scott's Restaurant, at Jack London Square in Oakland. For reservations call WCR President, **Patricia Bouie Hinds** of Classic Investments at 510-834-0702 or bouiehinds@sbcglobal.net.

TOUR DAY

Oakland Realtors are invited to join Oakland affiliates at the monthly Tour Day Breakfast. The breakfast is at 8:45, on Thursday, March 27, at the OAR Building. This month's speaker is **Paul Valva** of Valva Realty. Valva is the Chair of "Realtors For Safe Neighborhoods." The topic is "Eviction Restriction (Measure EE): Where Do We Go From Here?" Bring marketing flyers and an appetite. Be a winner of one of many raffle prizes. Network more — sell more. For questions and parking information call **Ingrid Westgaard** of North American Title at 510-339-2380 or **Ramadan Aziz** of First American Title at 510-339-1230.

ABOVE AND BEYOND

Talk about going above and beyond, that's what the recipients of the National Association of Realtors Good Neighbor awards do every day. If you know a Realtor who is a Good Neighbor, nominate them for the 2003 award (this national award was bestowed upon Realtor Oral Lee Brown of Oakland in 2001). The deadline for nominations is May 28. How do you find out more about being a volunteer? Learn from others with the "Leading A Charity" tool kit. Nomination forms and the tool kit are available at REALTOR.org/realformag.

ETHICS DEADLINE

Don't wait to meet the National Association of Realtors ethics class requirement. The deadline is Dec. 31. The course stresses familiarity with the Code of Ethics and also an understanding of how the code applies to your business. Contact your local association for class information. Additionally, REALTOR.org offers a free, online course.

SUCCESSFUL SELLING

Master Sales Trainer **Eric Lofholm** offers free in-home sales and success workshops. Secrets of successful selling are explained. Participants of these workshops are invited to attend the Sales Success



BOBBIE REID
Credit Worthy

2003 Seminar. The seminar covers in detail topics touched on at the workshops. Learn about time management, goal setting and referrals. The next seminar is Tuesday, April 8. Ticket information is available at salesuccess2003.com.

WHO'S ON FIRST

The Alameda Association of Realtors launched its new Web site. The Web site committee is open to suggestions for enhancement of the site. Visit www.alamedaaor.org or call 510-523-7229.

Realtors at Harbor Bay Realty in Alameda can't say enough good things about their Office Manager **Judi Healy**. To say thank you, they held an appreciation luncheon for Healy and 60 people showed up. Healy is always available at 510-523-1140.

WHAT'S UP DOC??

Someone new at your company? Something special your company is doing? Changing locations? Putting on a seminar? Let me know. I'd love to tell the world know. Information deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an e-mail to bobbiereid@mindspring.com. Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191. Call me at 510-441-7190.

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6654 Pine Needle Dr., Oak

This newly remodeled 3BR/2.5BA contemporary features delightful features, including terrific decks. The remodeling in the renovations is apparent with details such as counter tops, hardwood floors, master bedroom ins., skylights and beautiful lighting.

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This home is located in the quiet, desirable neighborhood of Sequoyah Highlands in the Oakland Hills. Special features include: 3Bd/2Ba (including Mbsite), Upgraded Kitchen and Master Bath, 2Fpl, Kitchen/FamRm Combo, Hdwd Flrs and Private Sunny Rear Yard.

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Sweeping View!

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SUNNY CRAFTSMAN BUNGALOW WITH LOTS OF ORIGINAL DETAILS & CHARM. 3+ BD/2BA, FRESHLY PAINTED INTERIOR W/REFINISHED WOOD FLOORS, FDR, BREAKFAST ROOM, LUSH, MATURE LANDSCAPING. GREAT CENTRAL LOCATION!



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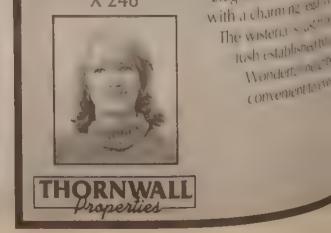
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AVOID LARGE CREDIT PURCHASES
AND PAY OFF OR PAY DOWN
OUTSTANDING CREDIT AS
IF YOU ARE IN THE MARKET

WEAKENING CREDIT
REPORTS ON RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE
LOANS AND IT BEHOVES YOU
TO CHECK UP ON YOUR CREDIT ACT.

THE FEWER REASONS YOU CAN
GET YOUR LENDER TO REJECT YOUR APPLICATION,
THE GREATER THE LIKELIHOOD
THAT YOU'LL GET THE MORTGAGE YOU
WANT AND THE CHEAPEST RATE.

THE ECONOMY REMAINS SOFT,
BUT IT COULD BECOME MORE SOFT.

THE FEDERAL RESERVE'S QUARTERLY
REPORT ON BANK LENDING PRACTICES
SHOWS A SURVEY OF 60 LARGE
BANKS AND 24 FOREIGN
BANKS — FOUND, IN JANUARY,
THAT THE SHARE OF BANKS TIGHTENING
STANDARDS ON RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE
LOANS INCHED UP TO 11 PERCENT
FROM 10 PERCENT IN THE OCTOBER
SURVEY.

INTEREST RATES ARE RELATIVELY
STABLE, BUT THE INCREASES IN THEIR
QUARTERLY INDICATIONS OF
TIGHTENING IN MORE
DECADES.

TIGHTENING WAS MORE PRO-
FOUND AMONG SMALLER BANKS OF
8.9 PERCENT TIGHTENED STANDARDS
COMPARED TO ONLY 8.8 PERCENT
FOR LARGE BANKS, THE FED REPORTS.

WITH CONTINUED ECO-
NOMIC SOFTNESS, THERE WAS A MORE
MILD DROP IN HOME PURCHASE
DEMAND — THE NET FRACTION
OF FAMILIES THAT REPORTED
DEMAND FOR MORTGAGES
TO PURCHASE HOMES OVER THE PAST
THREE MONTHS DROPPED TO 7 PERCENT
FROM 10 PERCENT IN THE PREVIOUS SURVEY.

THE SURVEY IS PARTICULARLY
RELEVANT FOR THE JANUARY,
AUGUST, AND NOVEMBER
MEETINGS OF THE FEDERAL OPEN
MARKET COMMITTEE. AT THOSE MEETINGS
THE FED DECIDES TO LOWER OR
RAISE INTEREST RATES.

THE SURVEY'S QUESTIONS COVER
THE LENDING STANDARDS
OF THE STATE OF THE LENDERS
AND HOUSEHOLD DEMAND FOR LOANS.

ON AVERAGE, BANK STANDARDS
WERE NEARLY UNCHANGED FOR
PAYMENTS, CREDIT SCORES
AND TO WHICH LOANS ARE
GIVEN WHEN CUSTOMERS DON'T
MEET SCORING THRESHOLDS.

IN ALL THREE CASES, THAT
LOAN WAS MORE TIGHTENED
STANDARDS SOMEWHAT
EASING STANDARDS

THAT THE FEDERAL RESERVE

RECOMMENDED

THE COMPANY

RECOMMENDED THE CREDIT SCORING

THOSE LENDERS USE, OFFERS
TIPS DESIGNED TO
IMPROVE YOUR CREDIT

THEY CAN ALSO HELP YOU
REDUCE THE IMPACT OF BANKS' TIGHTER

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Talking with Thekla Hammond: Building an artist's studio

Part one of two parts

In a continuing series about artists and their environment, Sheila Sabine of the Glass Sabine Team recently met with artist Thekla Hammond at her studio near Berkeley's popular Fourth Street area. The interview focuses on the process of building an artist's studio behind one's house! This is just what Thekla and her husband Steve did, and here's what the Glass Sabine Team learned about the process.

GST Tell me what you saw through your artist's eyes when you first looked at this property.

TH It was 1985. Steve and I had just been married and we were living in the city which was a very exciting place to be, but somehow for

me, I always felt like I was on vacation — mostly because I couldn't walk out my back door into a garden.

Steve was working at an urban planning firm on Fourth Street in Berkeley so he knew about the changes in store for this area. And, as everyone knows, the growth of Fourth Street has been phenomenal. What used to be a "no-man's land" when we first moved here is now a place where there's no place to park!

Anyway, at lunchtime, Steve would drive around this neighborhood and then tell me "This is the place to buy. This is the only place in Berkeley that makes any sense." And I said, "OK, fine." Actually, Steve

saw this house the day it came on the market, and he saw it as perfect because it is zoned for mixed use — meaning I could build a studio.

So we called our Realtor to say we had found something and when she came over to look at it, she began telling us all the reasons that we should not buy this house! However, I immediately envisioned what you see here today: I could build a studio behind the house and walk through my garden to get there — and that was the clincher.

GST You can have a connection with nature on your way to create.

TH Exactly right. The house itself had been built in 1902 as a summer cottage for people from

S.F. Along the way, there had been a few additions, but it was definitely a hodge-podge. However, the lot was large enough that we knew we could put in a garden, and build a studio. Also, another very important element for me is the light in the house; it was very appealing to me.

So, we put in an offer and even back then — almost 20 years ago — the market was very active and competitive much like it is today, and we got it! And then... I invited my family to come have a look. Their reactions? Well, my brother said "You're not going to actually live here, are you?" His concerns centered around the back-hoe company next door, the complete lack of curbs and sidewalks on any of

the nearby streets and the rather rundown condition of many of the houses in the neighborhood.

However, as it turned out, many of those houses had studios behind them. At the time, this was a real center for potters and almost every house had a potter or an artist of some sort working there.

GST So it sounds as if there was a sort of collective energy in the neighborhood that was calling out

to your artistic soul about what could feel it and the value of making the space you were

you were

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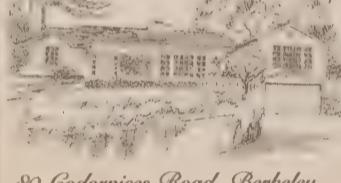
Fabulous 2 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom condo, just under 1,100 sq ft of living space, with an inviting floorplan in a quiet, secure building. New carpet, new paint, fireplace, washer and dryer in unit.

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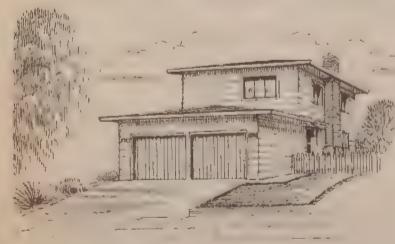
COMING SOON. The architectural details of both the New England Colonial style and the Spanish Mexican traditions are richly reflected in this wonderful home. Spacious formal rooms with parquet floors, fireplace, updated kitchen with breakfast room, home office & 3BR/2BA. Lower level with in-law suite and rumpus room with fireplace.

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32 Scenic Drive, Orinda

This fabulous light filled contemporary with beamed cathedral ceilings is a great example of architectural design for the California style of living. Walls of glass face a gorgeous setting with patios and decks for outdoor enjoyment. In addition to the four bedrooms and two bath, there is a large family room, and separate study. A truly wonderful home!

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Montclair Contemporary
OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2-4:30PM



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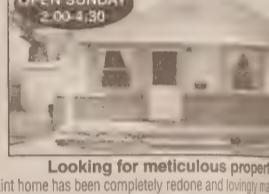
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2-4:30**



Looking for meticulous property?

This quaint home has been completely redone and lovingly maintained. Beautifully remodeled kitchen and bath with top-of-the-line appliances and Corian. There is a combination living and dining room and sunroom off the kitchen. The spacious master bedroom has a sitting area and walk-in closet. Overlooking the backyard is a charming deck — perfect for Sunday paper. The large backyard has fruit trees and a patio. Call Smith at 510-521-1508 or Nissa Dash at 510-521-2527

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California Realty



2478 Cole St. Oakland

New Listing! Built in 1918, this charming bungalow is quite inviting with its lovely warm color palette. A formal living room with a large picture window, fireplace, built-in bookcases & hardwood floors is perfect for curling up with a good book or for entertaining. A sizable dining room & adjoining newer kitchen add to entertaining enjoyment. The lovely hill view & nice level backyard complete the picture. Come and enjoy!

3+BR/2BA

Offered at 398,000



For More Information Call
Ruby Ng, CRS / Karen Lum
510 339-4779 or 510 339-4776
www.rubyng.com www.karenlum.com

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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5882 Ascot Dr. Oakland, CA 94611

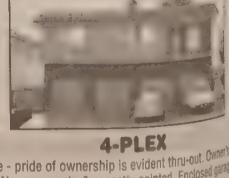
- Listed at \$849,000
- 4 Beds, 3.5 Baths
- Gourmet Kitchen
- Stunning Bay Views
- Tranquil Fountain and Garden Entry
- Granite, Marble and Slate Throughout
- Approx. 2,000 sq.ft.

Scott Thompson,
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Prudential Ca. Realty
510-410-2003 www.ScottThompson.blz

**Open House
Sunday, 1-5pm**



2 New Listings



4-PLEX

Townhouse style — pride of ownership is evident thru-out. Owner's w/patio & deck. Newer carpets & recently painted. Enclosed garage from Plaza & BART station. \$845,000. #170



EL CERRITO

Beautiful home, spacious hardwood floors, custom cabinetry, stainless steel appliances, skylights and too many more features to mention! \$339,000

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bine

PAGE B6

challenges facing you.

right - but I should have

LAUGHS! But somehow I

I thought 'Oh, sure, we

this

you've already said that

I decided to build a studio

the house with your hus-

and the designer and you as

a contractor. But did

I an architect at any

Steve did the drawings and

I found an architect-friend

willing to prepare the

blueprints to take to the city for

approval, and we worked out

He took a painting in ex-

for his work which was

now that, of course, I

imagine how we were

going to pay for the project.

At that point, the most inter-

esting happened with my

when we bought this house,

my painting studio in West

and I know my father al-

worried about my working

from home in a fairly iso-

I had always suspected

my disapproval of my being

because he had wanted

be a teacher. So, imagine

imagine when, after hearing

our plans to build a studio

here, he said 'Just build it, and I'll pay for it!'

GST So what did it really mean for you to be the general contractor of the project — what kinds of nuts and bolts challenges were facing you?**TH** Well, it meant that I had a new full-time job. I had a hard hat. I found, coordinated and scheduled all the sub-contractors and made sure they were doing what they were supposed to do so that the next guys could come in and get started.

Then, there would be a question, like 'What kind of door handles do you want?' After deciding what kind, I then had to track down a resource for door handles then get in the car and go buy them.

GST So you were a decision-maker, a coordinator and a gofer!**TH** Yes — plus I baked a lot of cookies — and made a lot of coffee!**GST** And you handled the payroll?**TH** Oh, sure — and I also dealt with all the necessary permits and documents required by the City of Berkeley**GST** And how long did all this take?**TH** Actually, it was really quick. From the time we started to the end of the project was three months. But then, it was my full-time job for those three months.**GST** Regarding the house itself, what did you do? In particular, what steps did you take to

make the house more livable for you?

TH Right away, we took out three walls in the living room/dining room area where there had been three tiny little rooms and following that, we redid the kitchen. We painted of course, but that's all we did before we moved in.**GST** Did you have the feeling that the process was somewhat organic as you moved through the house? For example, did you work from a master plan, or were you mostly working from your own vision about how you wanted to live in this house?**TH** Again, I knew I wanted a lot of light and it was clear that these small rooms not only prevented the light from flooding in, but if you're going to hang big paintings on the wall, you need expansive wall space.

So that was a challenge: if you've got a lot of light, you may not have a lot of walls but if you take some of the walls out and make bigger spaces, then large paintings work better — if that makes any sense!

GST Yes! You created an extremely interesting balance between large windows allowing light and also space for some of your large paintings.

Can you talk a little bit about your paintings?

TH Well, I paint in oil, and I prefer large paintings — at least 5' x 5' or larger — and these little Victorian houses definitely do not

have that kind of wall space but the solution is to put the paintings right up to the edge of the wall! There is not a lot of space around the paintings.

To answer your question, I usually work in series. The particular series in our house right now is called Solitude.

The truth is, when you work in the way that I do, you are isolated, and the best work comes from that. Realizing that, I did the Solitude series.

GST It is a necessary process in creativity to be alone — to allow the creative juices to manifest and appear in your paintings. And regarding the physical space for that process, you created a studio here at the house to make that happen!

Next week: a look inside the studio.

You can reach the Glass-Sabine team at 510-845-0211 or on the Web at www.gs.com.**Help stamp out illiteracy. Read with your children today.**

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1959 Bywood Drive
Offered at \$629,000
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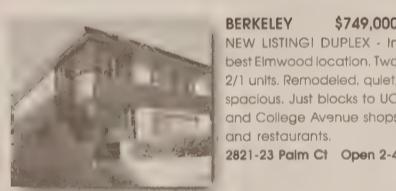
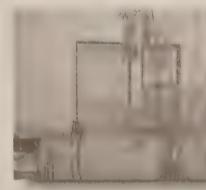
STUNNING BAY AND CITY VIEWS

**55 Rock Lane***A 1928 French Country Style Home in the North Berkeley Hills*

- Sweeping Three Bridge View
- Lovely Architectural Details
- Arched entrance to lovely rear yard
- Possible Attic Expansion
- Master Bedroom Suite Opens Onto Private Patio

A New Listing at \$748,000Virtual tour at www.pruweb.com/NancyTaussigNancy Taussig, Realtor
845-0211 (office) • 986-9563 (voice mail)**RED OAK REALTY**www.redoakrealty.com

Homes Open Sunday

**BERKELEY \$749,000**
NEW LISTING! DUPLEX - In best Elmwood location. Two 2/1 units. Remodeled, quiet, spacious. Just blocks to UC and College Avenue shops and restaurants.
2821-23 Palm Ct Open 2-4**ALBANY \$450,000**
NEW LISTING! 3 1/2 - Delightful level entry cottage, 2 fireplaces, hardwood floors, fresh paint, large detached 2-car garage. Close to transportation and shops.
929 Kains Street Open 2-4**OAKLAND \$499,000**
5 1/2 - Flexible spaces, possible home + income. Upstairs: beautiful Craftsman details, hardwoods, fireplace deck & yard. Downstairs: 2nd kitchen, separate entrance or connect w/ upstairs
536 45th Street Open 2-4**BERKELEY \$399,000**
NEW LISTING! 3 1/2 - Spacious Traditional. Many extras! In-law kitchen, fireplace. Close to transportation, shops and schools.
1630 Prince Street Open 2-4**ALBANY \$385,000**
NEW LISTING! 2 1/1 - Darling Mediterranean home! Hardwood floors, fireplace, many updates. Office cottage in the garden. 2 blocks to Solano Avenue & close to BART.
By Appointment
728 Cornell Avenue**OAKLAND \$74,900**
Commercial unit perfect for owner/user. Own your own office space & never lease again! Polished concrete floors, plumbing stubs, and more. Many amenities
By Appointment
730 29th Street #111**BERKELEY \$939,000**
3 1/2 - Marvelous Mediterranean. Sophisticated, recently remodeled with quality finishes. Gourmet kitchen, SF views, in-law possibility, more!
711 Spruce Street Open 2-4**ALBANY \$589,000**
3 1/2 - Sunny Mediterranean. Remodeled kitchen & bath, fireplace, hardwood floors, level rear garden with detached garage & workshop.
1053 Peralta Open 2-4**OAKLAND \$699,000**
NEW LISTING! 3 1/2 - Romantic and secluded with Bay views on a large lot in Montclair. Delightful kitchen, sunny decks, 2 fireplaces, hot tub, close to town & commute
5955 Rincon Drive Open 2-4**BERKELEY \$389,000**
2/1 - Lovely 2-story Victorian farmhouse with large yard, formal dining room, built-ins & attic. Close to 4th Street shops. More photos at www.saragrabedian.com.
921 Bancroft Way Open 2-4**EL CERRITO \$399,000**
NEW PRICE! 2 1/1 - Stellar views from this large, mint condition sanctuary. Sunny retreat with large, private patio. Big garage with workshop. Moments to BART.
6727 Snowdon Open 2-4**OAKLAND - DOWNTOWN \$359,000**
2 1/2 - Two-story, top floor penthouse condo. Fully remodeled: new carpet, paint & appliances. Floor to ceiling Bay views from both levels. 2 garage parking spaces.
801 Franklin Street #1436 Open 2-4

Maison Nouveau Realty offers 2 percent commission

MAISON NOUVEAU REALTY

BERKELEY — Maison Nouveau, which opened March 1, is charging customers 2 percent real estate commission for one basic reason — to save home buyers and sellers money in the hot Bay Area real estate market.

"Traditional real estate brokers charge 6 percent commissions to sell a home. That doesn't make sense anymore," says Heather Sittig, president of Maison Nouveau Realty.

"Given the cost of real estate in the Bay Area, traditional fees are just too high. Maison Nouveau intends to revolutionize the local real estate market by providing progressive pricing strategies to the value-conscious and sophisticated homeowner while maintaining a superior level of service."

The staff of highly talented agents works collaboratively, not independently, for each customer.

"Our agents pool their commissions so there is no animosity or competition for customers," says Sittig.

One agent is designated the client liaison, ensuring someone is available to service the buyers' and sellers' specific needs while the rest of the

team works behind the scenes to coordinate necessary activity throughout the transaction. "By dividing the essentials of the real estate sales process, it allows each agent to specialize in a unique facet

includes a competitive pricing model designed for Bay Area homes valued at over \$1,000,000. A flat-fee-for-service plan will also be offered to homeowners that want to sell their homes without the help of a full service real estate company, but still need guidance in closing the real estate transaction.

"We are implementing the latest technology and leveraging the best partnerships to support operations, sales and marketing and to service all of our clients' needs even after the close," Sittig said.

Sittig's personal involvement in the community has prompted her to support local artists by exhibiting their art work in the office on College Avenue.

"This is just one of the ways Maison Nouveau supports the community in which we work and live." MN is establishing the Maison Nouveau Foundation. "We aim to give substantial portions of our profits to local and international charitable organizations," said Sittig.

Contact Maison Nouveau Realty, Inc., 2701 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-9900, Histig@cs.com or www.MaisonNouveauRealty.com.

Traditional real estate brokers charge 6% commissions to sell a home. That simply doesn't make sense anymore.

Heather Sittig, president
Maison Nouveau

of the transaction," says Sittig. "It's a total team approach to selling real estate."

She explained, "Let's say you sold your home for \$500,000. The traditional 6 percent commission totals \$30,000, which is split \$15,000 to the buyer's agent and \$15,000 to the seller's agent. With Maison Nouveau's 2 percent program, Nouveau's portion is \$10,000.

Maison Nouveau's progressive fee structure program also

Ask the Dirt Gardener: non-blooming v

BY BUZZ BERTOLERO
CONTRIBUTOR

Q. Why can't my African Violet plants bloom? I buy new plants and once they finish blooming, they never bloom again.

A. New African Violet plants fail to bloom after the initial blooming period because of insufficient light. African Violets must have 10 to 14 hours of bright natural light per day, but no direct sun. Because Violets process nutrients during a "resting phase," they

should have a minimum of eight hours of darkness each day. Variegated Violet varieties need more light than plants with solid green leaves, as there is less chlorophyll. Chlorophyll is necessary, as it turns light into plant food through photosynthesis.

You can enhance the amount of natural light by sitting the plants on mirror tiles that are as large or larger than the plants. This reflects the available light upwards into the plant(s). If adequate natural light is not avail-

able, you can use incandescent tubes or infrared. They should be eight inches above the standard varieties and 12 inches above the plants. Insufficient light causes the plants to bloom.

African Violets need to be planted frequently, but every 12 to 15 days. Insufficient light causes the plants to bloom.

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1790 Grand View Drive, Claremont Hills

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Large, stunning, architect designed contemporary w/Bay & City views located on an expansive lot with terraced lawns, Bay trees. 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, family room, office, fabulous guest suite/garage. Master retreat with views! Spectacular integration of simplicity & style.

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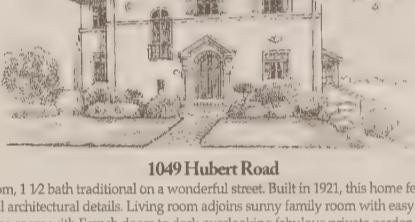
of this and other current

NEW LISTING

DON'T MISS THIS WEEK'S OPEN HOME GUIDE ON B17.

Crocker Highlands Traditional

Open Sunday
1:30-4:30pm



1049 Hubert Road

Charming 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath traditional on a wonderful street. Built in 1921, this home features a classic floor plan with delightful architectural details. Living room adjoins sunny family room with easy outdoor access. Lovely formal dining room with French doors to deck overlooking fabulous private garden and level yard.

Offered at \$845,000



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(510) 835-6080 Voice Mail
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Open Sunday

RIDGEMONT \$1,529,000

1323 CAMPUS DRIVE (Open 2-4:30) Custom built w/fabulous great room, formal dining, large level yard, master suite w/sitting room, terrace & bay views. 5+BR/4.5BA. Dee Knowland x1318

MONTCLAIR \$1,475,000

16024 BROADWAY TER. (Open 2-4:30) Courtyard design. Great bay views. Large kitchen/family room. 4+BR/2.5BA, 2 suites. Rosalie Woods x1324

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,395,000

6138 OCEAN VIEW DR. (Open 2-4:30) Distinctive custom Craftsman, 3+BR/2.5BA gourmet kitchen, cherry floors, lovely patio, level yard, excellent location. Dee Knowland x1318

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,295,000

6117 BUENA VISTA AVE. (Open 2-4:30) Stately Mediterranean style home with sweeping SF/bay views. 4+BR/2.5BA, den and chef's kitchen. Fritz Hochfellner x1348

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,200,000

1033 ASHMOULD AVE. (Open 2-5)

New listing! Architecturally rich 5+BR/3.5BA. 4000+ sq. ft.: gorgeous formal rooms; sun room/home office; rec/rum-pus room. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

MONTCLAIR \$1,175,000

1225 MOUNTAIN BLVD. (Open 2-4:30) Stylish new home w/high ceilings, cherry floors & artistic stonework. Large family room opens to garden. Close to Montclair Village. 4BR/3.5BA. Sandi Klemmer x1314

BERKELEY \$975,000

621 ARLINGTON AVE. (Open 2-4:30) Gorgeous sunny Colonial. 4+BR/3BA, main level family room, large level-out yard and filtered bay views. Wendy Gardner x1303

BERKELEY \$654,000

6654 PINE NEEDLE DR. (Open 2-4:30) New listing! 3+BR/2.5BA newly remodeled contemporary w/tremendous decks, hardwood floors, built-ins, skylights. Dick Cohen x1308

BERKELEY \$975,000

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BERKELEY \$975,000

621 ARLINGTON AVE. (Open 2-4:30)

acks in stucco aren't necessarily a need for alarm

the past two years I've seen small hairline cracks in the exterior stucco and the walls and ceilings of rooms. At first I was worried, but the cracking is getting worse. Some cracks run up the corners and are 1/4 inch wide. It is only five years old. How do I know the cracks are normal or something to be concerned about? Does this have something to do with the foundation or soil? Someone told me the soil around here has adobe in it.

— B. P., Dublin

to the forces of nature and ground movement, as well as the effects of expansion and contraction of the framing system and finished surfaces.

If you think about it, a house is only as stable as the ground that supports it. Houses built on adobe soil will experience more movement than most homes because of adobe's great potential for expansion and contraction. Most of the soil here in the Bay

Area has some adobe content, and when this soil moves, vibrates or settles, so does the house that sits on it.

The catalyst for adobe's ability to expand and contract, is moisture. During the winter months when adobe soil gets wet, it expands. During the spring and summer as the rains begin to stop and the soil starts to dry out, the adobe actually contracts and shrinks. This movement of adobe

soil is the biggest contributing factor to hairline cracking in the surfaces of a building.

Cracking in stucco and sheet rock most commonly occurs at the outside corners of window and door openings, the inside corners of walls and ceilings and sometimes at joints in the finished surfaces. This is usually where building movement is most evident. Most of the time, minor cracking at these locations is not



JOHN SCHNEIDER

a structural concern, and is considered to be cosmetic. However, large or progressive cracking can be an indication of a structural compromise.

See SCHNEIDER Page B12

CHINA HILL - NEW LISTING LAKE MERRITT - OAKLAND



364 Lester Ave. • Cape Cod Bungalow

Just blocks away from Lake Merritt and Downtown Oakland, this charming home 2+ bedrooms, 2+ baths make this a versatile home. Lovely living and dining room boast wood floors and beam ceilings. Nice size open to deck. Upstairs is finished attic space with a bedroom, bath and laundry. Downstairs offers a room with kitchen, bath & plus rooms, space for home office, etc. This very special home is waiting for you!

Offered at \$488,500

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723
Tour at www.donnaconroy.com

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996 Grosvenor Place, Crocker Highlands

COMING SOON. Be ready for elegant entertaining in this exquisite and spacious period Mediterranean home in the heart of popular Crocker Highlands. Beautifully updated for today's most gracious lifestyle with five bedrooms, three baths, handsome kitchen/family room, perfectly restored period details and solarium.

Offered at \$1,250,000.

NANCY LEHRKIND
OFFICE: 339.0400/246
lehrkind@grubbc.com
GRUBBCO.COM

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of current listings.

The GRUBB Co.

4280 Howe Street, Oakland

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Delightful two story Victorian style home in the Piedmont Avenue area. Two bedrooms, one and one half bathrooms, large level garden off the kitchen. Charming restoration!

Offered at \$519,000



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*5.25% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$322,700 loan amount and includes points. Application closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$322,700 is approximately \$9,394, monthly payment \$766. Homeowners insurance is required. **5.875% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$322,700 loan amount and includes points. Application closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$322,700 is approximately \$17,781, monthly loan amount \$1,000. Homeowners insurance is required. ***4.026% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$322,700 and includes points. Application closing costs will apply. 3/1 adjustable rate mortgage is for first 3 years and then adjusts to market rate every year thereafter. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$322,700 is approximately \$1,517, monthly loan amount \$100.00. Homeowners insurance is required. Above programs are based on primary single family residences, townhouses, and condominiums only. No prepayment penalty required. Cash out allowed up to 75% loan-to-value. Other restrictions may apply. All credit applications are subject to credit qualifications and underwriting requirements. Rates as of March 19th, 2003 are subject to change without notice.

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HERITAGE REAL ESTATE FINE HOMES & ESTATES



MILLER HIGHLANDS \$659,000

Very bright with sunlight flowing from 3 story. Sleek & sophisticated with 2-story ceilings on all levels. Beautifully landscaped private garden on side yard & deck. 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths. Just listed!



NORTH BERKELEY \$2,500,000

Historic John Hudson Thomas built in 1913. Approx. 6,000 square feet + cottage. Panoramic Bay views. Japanese gardens with waterfall, streams, bridges, meandering paths, stepping stones. Mary Hanna



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$679,000

Restored Tudor-style home has the best of traditional styling set in an urban yet peaceful setting. The 3+4 bedrooms, cook's eat-in kitchen, ample storage, delightful patio and landscaped garden all await its new owners! Marissa Wilson



CLAREMONT TRADITIONAL \$600,000

Live near BART, freeway access and the delightful shops of Rockridge and College Avenue. This 2-story, 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home features both convenience and great space for everyday living. Jay Leon



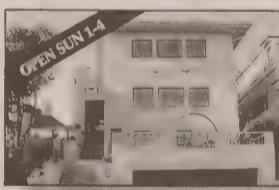
MAYWOOD \$289,000

Two-story townhome adjacent to the Skywest Golf Course. Three bedrooms, 2.5 baths and an interior two-car garage. The step-down living room has a fireplace and a patio shaded by citrus trees. Tom Erwin



LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$369,000

Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath home on quiet, tree-lined street. Minutes from Montclair Village. Hardwood floors, fireplace and large kitchen. Fabulous details and you can move right in. Sarah Schisler



GRAND LAKE \$699,000

Totally remodeled Craftsman inviting old with new. Master suite with private deck, hardwood floors & French doors throughout. High-end kitchen. Gracious living room with fireplace. Angela Lawson



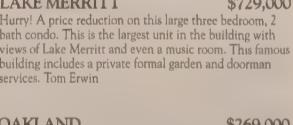
PARKWOODS \$379,000

Gleaming oak hardwood floors introduce you to this large two bedroom, two bath condo. Included are gas log fireplace, maple kitchen cabinets, ceramic tile counters, in-unit laundry and two private decks. Amenities are a pool, spa, clubhouse, fitness center and greenbelts. Tom Erwin



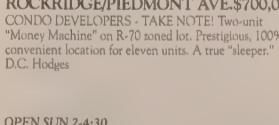
LAUREL \$849,000

One-story castle. Handsome brick design really - high vaulted wood beam ceilings. Two unique lovely side yard & decks. Drop by - see for Mel Copland



LAKE MERRITT \$729,000

Hurry! A price reduction on this large three bedroom, 2 bath condo. This is the largest unit in the building with Lake Merritt and even a music room. This famous building includes a private formal garden and doorman services. Tom Erwin



ROCKRIDGE/PIEDMONT AVE. \$700,000

CONDO DEVELOPERS - TAKE NOTE! Two-unit "Money Machine" on R-20 zoned lot. Prestigious, 100% convenient location for eleven units. A true "sleeper." D.C. Hodges



LAKE MERRITT \$295,000

Bright & spacious is this one bedroom, one bath condo in Oakland's landmark Art Deco highrise. Amenities are oak parquet floors, wood burning fireplace, and a newly remodeled efficiency kitchen with volcanic stone counter. Included are 24 hour doorman and valet services. Tom Erwin

10.339.8900

611 La Salle Avenue • Oakland, CA 94611
www.heritagerealstate.com

OPEN SUN 2-4:30
LAKE MERRITT \$650,000

The Regillus, Oakland's meticulously renovated Beaux-Arts building offers this two bedroom, two bath condo on the eighth floor. Panoramic views from every room, grand architectural details, a massive wood burning fireplace, are some of the details, as well as a stunningly remodeled kitchen. Tom Erwin

LAUREL \$495,000

Huge potential! Wonderful home with upgrades. Large family room, Bay views plus pool & bonus room with separate entry. Angela Lawson

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190 Maxwelton Road



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pacunion.com

Handsome built on a promontory for ultimate privacy, this extraordinary home offers unobstructed views of downtown San Francisco, the Bay, and the Golden Gate Bridge! The living/dining room is graced with floor to ceiling fenestration for full appreciation of the views. The floor plan includes 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, a den and a family room. A view deck, spacious patio, and lush, terraced gardens provide the perfect setting for this most livable work of art!



Offered at \$1,250,000

Lorri Rosenberg Arazi
Broker Associate (510) 338-1330



OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2-5PM

New Listing!



1033 Ashmount Ave, Oakland

This five bedroom, three bath meticulously maintained sun-drenched 1920's traditional is located on one of Oakland's most desirable and rarely available streets. Rich architectural details, gracious oversized rooms, and verandas enhance this truly unique property. Additional features include formal dining room, home office/sun room/rec/romp room, two car attached garage with interior access.

Offered at \$1,200,000



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1330 Campus Drive, Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2-4

Bay View home nestled in Live Oak and Bay trees creates a secluded setting for this exciting home. It features 3 bdrms, 2 baths, plus recreation room or family area and separate, detached studio or office. This home is perfect for the person that appreciates beautiful oak & mahogany clad walls & floors. The skylight & vaulted ceiling of the tiled gallery entry will draw you into this dramatic experience.

\$699,000. Terese Ashman x11

466 Hudson, Rockridge

By Appointment

This stunning craftsman bungalow within easy access to Market Hall, all College Ave. amenities and BART offers three generous sized bedrooms & 2 full bathrooms and remodeled kitchen. Brick fireplace, boxed beams, beveled glass hutch, wainscoting and more. An added bonus is the artist studio and well tended yard.

\$649,000. Joan Brunswick x20

3047 Wheeler, Berkeley

Open Sunday, 1-4

Amazingly lush garden affords privacy and tropical dreams! Special 1907 unassuming bungalow w/ generous living spaces. Beautiful wood detailing in the formal dining room; festive and fun family room opens from kitchen. 2 bedrooms, 1 remodeled bath.

\$499,000. Nancy Mueller x20

"Thank you for the countless ways you helped us find exactly the right house. We're very grateful for your persistence and patience."

—M.G. & M.M., Oakland

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Coming Soon!
Rockridge charming home. Large enclosed gardens. 2BR/2BA and huge multi-purpose room. Garage.

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4843 Fairfax. Gracious living room, bright kitchen nook, sunny deck and private backyard. 3BR/1BA.

Amy Davis
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G1 \$135,324/2 com
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Church
6750 sq. ft. floor
worship assembly
kitchen and dining
rooms

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2 clean buildings, 4
1BR/1BA, 2 com
1BR/1BA, 2 com

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9-Unit Mixed
G1 \$135,324/2 com
1BR/1BA, 2 com
2BR/1BA, 2 com

Church
6750 sq. ft. floor
worship assembly
kitchen and dining
rooms

Viewing only.

PG&E

Specialists at free homebuyer seminar

Springtime, and spring is the time for renewal, for new beginnings. Have you promised yourself that 2003 would be the time for a new home? Are you ready to buy your first or next home? Do you put off because you just don't know where to start? Here's a way to begin.

Buying a home is a challenging prospect in today's real estate market. Learn about the home buying process. Attend "The Home Buying Answers Class." This free class is

scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, April 5 and May 3. The class location is the San Leandro Main Library.

See SEMINAR, Page B12

the GRUBB Co.



407 Hudson Street, Rockridge

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This two story craftsman boasts pride of ownership from the tall slender columns that grace the front porch to the stunning hand crafted mantle in the living room and the delicately curved handrail in the staircase. Modern kitchen with white hardwood floors & top of the line appliances. Three spacious bedrooms, two baths. Master suite with study and sitting area.

Offered at \$829,000

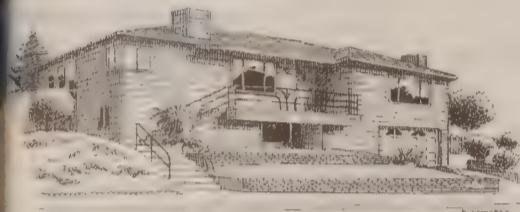


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New Listing in Redwood Heights

OPEN SUNDAY MARCH 23, 2-4:30



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pacunion.com

3386 Kiwanis Street, Oakland

Don't just drive-by this home! You will miss the sweeping bay view and spacious floor plan. Beautiful parquet floors in living room and formal dining room. Kitchen with dining area. Two bedrooms and home office on main level. Family room and half bath below. Attached two-car garage. Has never been on the market. Quiet street and approx. 2000 sq. feet. Located at crest of Midvale.

Asking price \$529,000



Diane Earl McCann
REDWOOD HEIGHTS & LAUREL SPECIALIST
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(510) 482-9932

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GMAC Real Estate Services

Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on B17.

1519 Henry Street, Berkeley



Fantastic Location in North Berkeley. Spacious and Elegant Two Bedrooms, Two & One Half Bathrooms Formal Living Room & Dining Room Built In Bookcases, Fireplace & Private Patio, Open & Light Galley Style Kitchen, Two "Plus" Rooms Two Off Street Tandem Parking Spaces, Close To Shops & Restaurants

Offered at \$539,000



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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



6350 CONTRA COSTA RD., OAKLAND
Price Reduced! Spectacular 4BD/4BA 3200 sq. ft. upper Rockridge charmer with a fabulous floor plan.

Pedrom Karbassi
531-7000 x290

\$99,000

6655 OAKWOOD, OAKLAND
New Listing! Gorgeous SF, Bay, canyon views from this 3 BD/3 BA mid-century Montclair contemporary home. Private terraced front garden, fenced downspine back yard. Hdwd flrs, fmrl DR/fmrl rm.

Nicolete Bot
531-7000 x261

\$659,000

425 ORANGE STREET #202, OAKLAND
Charming, bright condo. 1BD/1BA, completely new bath w/jetted tub, new kitchen appliances, serene pool. Secure parking & extra storage space.

Troy Butler
531-7000 x232

\$199,000

LAND

BUILDING OPPORTUNITY IN MONTCLAIR

Upslope lot in finished neighborhood. Includes survey and soils report. Motivated seller.

Mary Neuberger
531-7000 x251

\$449,000

BY APPOINTMENT

MIXED USE PROPERTY-OAKLAND

New Listing! One commercial and 4+ apartments. Lots of upside. Maxwell Park area.

Beth Dealey
531-7006 x283

\$598,000

1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND
531-7000

\$575,000

629 TRESTLE GLEN RD., OAKLAND

OPEN 2-5, 4BD/3.5BA 3-story gorgeous home, marble flrs, dual pane windows, granite counters, fpic in LR & MBR, large Jacuzzi rm.

Patsy Buhler
531-7000 x238

\$899,000

531-7000 x231

2940 MADERA, OAKLAND

Spacious 2BD/2BA in Maxwell Park on great street! Large living rm, w/ fireplace, eat-in kitchen, lower level w/family rm, bath & bsmr, level yard, 3-car detached garage.

Kate Phillips
531-7000 x228

\$375,000

2316 LAKESHORE AVENUE #2, OAKLAND

1st Open! Glorious dead-on Lake views, big beautiful 2BD/2BA, refinished hardwood floors, fresh paint, light & bright, excellent location for commute, shopping!

Joy Bryden
531-7000 x218

\$369,000

BY APPOINTMENT

MAGNIFICENT NEW CONTEMPORARY ARTS & CRAFTS

Home with spectacular panoramic views! Rich woods, extensive use of stone & ceramic tile, incredible style. Master suite w/sitting room, showcase kitchen, terrific slate deck & patios. 4BD/4.5BA.

Kate Phillips
531-7000 x251

\$1,599,000

531-7000 x251

CHARMING COTTAGE ON TREE-LINED STREET!

1BD/1BA, din. rm. w/built-in cabinets, updated kit. & bath, attached garage, bsmr. for storage, large private magical yard w/hot tub!

Kate Phillips
531-7000 x228

\$289,000

531-7000 x228

VICTORIAN 6-PLEX

Tremendous opportunity. Great for invest or reconvert to home plus income.

Anne Bruff
531-7006 x283

\$575,000

531-7000 x283

CONVENIENT LOCATION

1BD/1BA condo nr. shopping, dining & theatre. Lots of extra closet space & pantry off kit, wall-to-wall cpt. & updated BA. Nr transp.

Patsy Buhler
531-7000 x288

\$185,000

OAKLAND 4-PLEX

Nice fourplex. 2BD/2BA in each unit, carpet and tile, 1031 exchange, high rents.

Pedram Karbassi
531-7000 x283

\$465,000

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Schneider

FROM PAGE B3

With the winter and spring rains and long dry summers we have had the past two years, the soil has had the opportunity to move more than normal. This can make hairline cracks become bigger and more noticeable, and can cause doors and windows to shift and bind in their openings. This may be what you are experiencing with your house.

Normally, it is during the summer months that cracks in stucco and sheetrock become seem to occur. This is when the soil under the house is the driest, and most compact. Often these cracks are not new cracks, but existing cracks that have merely opened up and are now more visible to the eye.

So how can you tell if cracking is serious? A basic rule of thumb suggests that a crack is cosmetic if it is less than 1/8th of an inch wide, and if the edges of the crack still line up with one another. Take a look at one of the cracks you are concerned about. If you look at the edges on either side of the crack, and the edges still line up (if you were able to

push the crack back together), then the crack is considered minor and cosmetic.

On the other hand, if the crack is more than 1/4 of an inch wide, and edges of the crack have shifted or moved in relation to each other, the crack is considered to be serious. It is the shifting or slippage of the opposite edges of the crack that often indicates unusual movement of the components of the house. This shifting can be an up or down movement of the edges, a shifting that causes one surface to rise above the other, or a tilting of the surfaces so that the crack is wide at the top and tight at the bottom.

Large cracks and cracks that have shifted, indicate that some part of the framing system and/or the foundation, has moved and created enough stress for the surface materials to break apart. If the foundation on one side of the house has settled more than the other side, cracking will occur

Cracking will also occur when a vertical support post under the house settles or moves. Large cracks should always be investigated to determine the cause before any repairs are attempted.

If the cracking is minor, the crack can be usually be caulked and painted over. Ideally, the crack would be cut open slightly, to allow the caulking or patching material to fully seal the void between the two edges. Otherwise, the caulking will only be on the surface of the material, and will separate or break apart if the crack moves in the future.

John R. Schneider is a licensed general building contractor and a certified residential code specialist. Readers may address their comments to John Schneider, 24326 Mission Blvd. Suite 7, Hayward, CA 94544. Fax number: 510 537-8666, or on the Web at www.allabouthomes.com. Please include your phone number.

curity is created by home ownership," said Lupo. "This class helps the buyer make the right decisions and could save them thousands."

If you aren't ready to sell but have questions on refinancing your home, Lupo can provide the answers. With interest rates at forty year lows, there is no better time to think about paying off credit card debt, remodeling or just lowering your mortgage payment. Attend the class or ask for a private, one-on-one counseling session.

The April class will also have a guest speaker. Area specialist, Lisa Sterling-Sanchez of RE/MAX East Bay Group provides information

on the local market. Sterling is a Realtor and the 2003 Multiple Listing Service Chair for the Bay East Association of Realtors. She is a member of the Women's Council of Realtors Southern Alameda County Chapter and chairs their Education Committee.

This top-producing agent brings her fourteen years of experience in the industry, to aid those attending the workshop.

Bring your questions and a guest if you choose, but you must pre-register. Call the "Answers Class" hotline to reserve a spot at 888-629-0077 ext. 8610. Information on future classes and one-on-one consultations are also available.

Seminar

FROM PAGE B11

Get the answers to your home buying questions, whether you are buying for the first time or ready to move-up. Find out if you qualify for a larger home, why you really need a real estate agent and if your credit is OK. You will learn how to buy with a zero down payment and zero cost.

The facilitator is Senior Loan Consultant Margie Lupo of Vinc Mortgage. With over twenty years in the industry, Lupo understands all aspects of the home buying process. "A feeling of se-

curity is created by home ownership," said Lupo. "This class helps the buyer make the right decisions and could save them thousands."

If you aren't ready to sell but have questions on refinancing your home, Lupo can provide the answers. With interest rates at forty year lows, there is no better time to think about paying off credit card debt, remodeling or just lowering your mortgage payment. Attend the class or ask for a private, one-on-one counseling session.

The April class will also have a guest speaker. Area specialist, Lisa Sterling-Sanchez of RE/MAX East Bay Group provides information

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152 Centre Court, Alameda

Lovely turn-of-the-century bungalow



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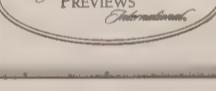
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This gracious three-story Tudor home with nearly 2500sq.ft., has been extensively remodeled. Beautiful marble in-lay floors, custom built cherry wood mantle, new landscape with Japanese red maples, Bonsai trees and slate walkway. This unique house features 4BD/3.5BA, dramatic original oak spiral stairway, and sunken living room with defused and recessed lighting, elegant formal dining, dual pane windows, gourmet kitchen and family room leading to flagstone backyard. Spectacular master suite, and much more.

Open Sunday, March 23rd
2-5 pm

Ury Beary
(510) 527-8545

NEW LISTING
OPEN SUNDAY,
March 23rd, 2-4 p.m.

1211 DARTMOUTH STREET

ALBANY

A totally charming MacGregor-style bungalow with Craftsman touches. Formal dining room, updated kitchen & bath. Sauna, lovely yard with deck & fruit trees. Garage converted to studio/office. Offered at \$389,000

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</div

PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



165 WOODLAND WAY

A charming home in a desirable Piedmont neighborhood! Gracious formal living and dining rooms. Open eat-in kitchen with sitting area & garden access; 4BR + rumpus room.

Mindy Scott



356 WILDWOOD AVE.

This wonderful traditional home is filled with old world charm, matchstick hardwood floors. 4BR/2BA up, huge deck, potential and views.

Debby

PIEDMONT - BY APPOINTMENT



PIEDMONT ESTATE

This incredible Albert Farr designed estate has it all! Magnificent woods, rare architectural details, 6BR and a recently landscaped garden including a glamorous swimming pool.

Anian Pettit Tunney

\$3,995,000

HIDDEN ESTATE

This glamorous estate on almost one acre has been recently re-constructed. Offers exquisite grounds, an English guest' cottage & bottom pool.

Anian

BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



80 CODORNICES ROAD

\$850,000

Very elegant one-level living on a quiet cul-de-sac! Bay views, 2BR/2BA, library, private garden. A rare opportunity! Near Berkeley's Rose Garden. Bebe McRae

111 TAMALPAIS ROAD

\$850,000

Historic home in N. Berkeley owned by scientist E.O. Lawrence. 5BR/3.5BA, glorious vistas & large landscaped garden. Lower floor could be in-law apt.

Susie Schevill

1037 SILER PLACE

\$2,250,000

Claremont Hills sophisticated & serene comfort with vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors & Gold.

Debby

Located on a large lot for privacy.

Anian

OAKLAND & MORAGA - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



6031 SKYLINE BLVD.

\$2,498,000

Open 2-Sunset. Unrivaled Mediterranean Villa w/ incredible view of the Bay, Bridges & SF. Just completed! Media room, elevator. Cobblestones, flagstone courtyard & terraces. Pizza oven.

Debra J. Dryden

101 BEECHWOOD DRIVE

\$2,495,000

Romantic Tuscan villa designer built. Wonderful gourmet kitchen/family room. Rumpus leads to level garden & patios. Romantic master suite w/ fireplace. 5BR/3.5BA.

Elizabeth Dickson

5626 WEAVER PLACE

\$2,379,000

Private gated estate w/spectacular views. 6 horse barn, landscaped gardens, 4BR including two suites, gourmet kitchen w/island, updated throughout. Endless possibilities for expansion.

Kurt Buchholz

5955 GIRVIN DRIVE

\$829,000

Dramatic Piedmont Pines contemporary w/bridge & canyon views. Expansive lot. 4BR/3.5BA. Two master suites. Vaulted ceilings. Large deck with hot tub. Many extras!

Erika Celeste

Anian

4641 PARK BOULEVARD

\$2,250,000

Beautiful Glenview Craftsman! New build. Original built-ins. 3BR/2BA, study, formal dining room, great garden. Convenient to shops & transportation.

Debby

4280 HOWE STREET

\$1,750,000

Utterly charming 2-story Victorian, remodeled 2BR/1.5BA, large level garden off the basement. Great location & style. Near Peacock's, dining & transportation.

Kathy

Anian

4425 CARSON STREET

\$1,250,000

Wonderful split-level 3BR/2.5BA (2nd fl.). Random plank hardwood floors, ramp access to lovely back garden from east Redwood Heights.

Lisa

4197 ASCOT DRIVE

\$1,250,000

MORAGA. Gorgeous & sophisticated townhome. Granite kitchen, updated to patio & gardens with serene canyon garage, lovely setting.

Debby

4302 CALIFORNIA STREET

\$1,150,000

Sunny 3BR/1BA home in move-in condition. Back garden, breezeway & fruit trees. Convenient neighborhood location.

Sherry

Anian

500 VERNON ST. # 402

\$1,000,000

This spacious 2BR/2BA penthouse provides one-level living, two large roof decks & city views. Close to Piedmont Ave. Convenient to shopping, dining & transportation.

Anian

6640 SUNNYMERE AVE.

\$1,000,000

Adorable little Oakland Hills bungalow. Large 2-car garage. In beautiful condition. Opportunity for a first time home buyer.

Anian

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Sales

FROM PAGE B15

EL SOBRANTE

4313 Santa Rita Rd - \$365,000

EMERYVILLE1022 44th St - \$330,000
8 Captain Dr E353 - \$252,500
6363 Christie 2213 - \$352,000

5855 Horton 402 - \$485,000

5855 Horton 403 - \$330,000

5855 Horton 407 - \$330,000

5855 Horton 517 - \$315,000

5855 Horton 603 - \$230,500

5855 Horton 703 - \$262,000

5855 Horton 706 - \$230,500

5855 Horton 715 - \$350,000

5855 Horton 809 - \$595,000

2968 107th Av - \$315,000

917 107th Av - \$225,000

2630 109th Av - \$270,000

1645 20th Av - \$217,000

2122 21st Av - \$222,000

1224 32nd St - \$307,500

827 34th Av - \$375,000

3854 39th Av - \$495,000

2074 40th Av - \$325,000

2116 42nd Av - \$425,000

714 45th St - \$265,000

539 47th St - \$305,000

846 53rd St - \$600,000

809 54th Av - \$310,000

622 58th St - \$305,000

758 61st St - \$545,000

1168 63rd St - \$305,000

1082 66th St - \$255,000

962 70th Av - \$198,000

2742 75th Av - \$255,000

283 75th Av - \$251,000

1300 78th Av - \$260,000

2400 82nd Av - \$415,000

1934 87th Av - \$235,000

1335 93rd Av - \$285,000

1073 Aileen St - \$475,000

4728 Allendale Av - \$472,000

1003 Amito Dr - \$725,000

5928 Ascot Dr - \$675,000

5334 Broadway - \$551,000

3937 Brown Av - \$550,000

6512 Buena Ventura - \$420,000

9614 C St - \$300,000

320 Caldecott 132 - \$245,000

5760 Chelton Dr - \$595,000

1421 Comstock - \$350,000

10591 Creekside - \$280,000

3311 East 17th St - \$360,000

2215 East 19th St - \$118,000

2209 East 2nd

1335 East 2nd

See SALES

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www.Cat-

*Coming Soon!***OAKLAND**

1734 100th Av - \$280,000

THE WILLIAM REES HOUSE, c. 1906

From the office of Bernard Maybeck, this historic North Berkeley residence received the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association's Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Renovation and Restoration in 1991.

Offered at \$1,950,000Gini Erck
(510) 338-1339**Open House - Sunday, 3/23 & 3/30****(from 2-4:30pm)****588 - 6 1st STREET****Offered at \$449,000**

Centrally located in a quiet North Oakland neighborhood, this beautifully renovated bungalow offers a fully updated kitchen & bathroom and superb architectural details. Ashby or Rockridge BART, College Av, UC Berkeley, freeways and Downtown Oakland are just minutes away.

- 3 Bedrooms / 1 Bathroom
- Formal Dining Room
- Beautiful Hardwood Floors
- Huge attic-ideal for expansion
- Basement with washer and dryer
- Large Sunny Back Yard-ideal for gardening
- Additional Information: plumbing & electrical upgrades, new foundation, roof & irrigation system- freshly painted inside and out.

Harbor Bay Realty Tere Lee Marilyn Pomeroy

Sat & Sun 2-4 1130 Otis Dr 4BD/2BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4875

Harbor Bay Realty Deldre Dixon

Sat & Sun 2-4 510-523-1144 510-814-4875

Harbor Bay Realty 1130 High Street 3BD/1BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4878

Harbor Bay Realty Karin Ingeman Fox

Sat & Sun 2-4 603 Centre Court 2bd

Sun 2-4 1846 Eight Street 3BD

Sun 2-4 3014 San Jose 2+bd

Sat & Sun 2-4 Main Island 510-523-0746

Kane & Associates Mindy Hart

Sat & Sun 2-4 232 Santa Clara Ave 2BD/1BA

Sun 2-4 510-523-1144 510-814-4875

Harbor Bay Realty Sat & Sun 2-4 2518 Lincoln 3bd

Sun 2-4 Main Island 510-528-1215

Kane & Associates John McNulty

Sat & Sun 2-4 1130 High Street 3BD/1BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4878

Harbor Bay Realty Dennis Keefe

Sat & Sun 2-4 3222 Fernside 2+bd

Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Island 510-865-7239

Kathy Ratto

Sat & Sun 2-4 441 Whitehall 3BD/2BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4874

Harbor Bay Realty Mark Playsted

Sat & Sun 2-4 21 Britt Ct 3bd

Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay 510-273-9444

Kathy Bell-Matthy

Sat & Sun 2-4 1712 San Jose Ave 2BD/1.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4891 510-814-4823

Harbor Bay Realty Nancy Brandt

Sat & Sun 2-4 924 Versailles 3BD/1.5BA

Sun 2-4 Main Island 510-521-9294

Jim Manglapane

Sat & Sun 2-4 17 Argus Ct 3BD/2.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4824 510-814-4817

Harbor Bay Realty Connie Hanna

Sat & Sun 2-4 422 Sheffield Rd 3BD/2BA

Sun 2-4 510-280-2147

Harbor Bay Realty RED OAK, Sara Garabedian

Sat & Sun 2-4 921 Bancroft Way 2BD/1.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-280-2147

Harbor Bay Realty RED OAK, Scott Bovard

Sat & Sun 2-4 1630 Prince St 3BD/2.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-280-2147

Harbor Bay Realty RED OAK, Scott Bovard

Sat & Sun 2-4 7 Argus Ct 3BD/2.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4824 510-814-4817

Harbor Bay Realty Tim Marr

Sat & Sun 2-4 2656 Virginia St 2BD/1BA

Sun 2-4 510-527-2700 X22

Marvin Gardens, Richard Morrison

Sat & Sun 2-4 917 Centennial 2BD/2.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4829

Margaret Lomba

Sat & Sun 2-4 917 Centennial 2BD/2.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4829

Margaret Lomba

BROKER, KEVIN C. BROWN

Office (510) 654-8707 ext.2

Direct (510) 593-4780



Alameda

591 Creedon Cir 4BD/4BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4711 Judy Jacobs

\$235,000 965 Shorepoint Ct #313 1bd/1ba

Sun 2-4 510-748-1125 Troy Staten

\$249,000 1711 Third 2+BD/1BA

Sat & Sun 2-4 510-523-1144 Eunice Edwards

\$315,000 955 Shorepoint Ct #106 2bd

Sun 2-4 510-522-1175 Betty Sewell

\$369,000 2515 Central Ave #104 2bd/2ba

Sun 2-4 510-748-1137 Gallagher & Lindsey

\$395,000 1027 Eagle Ave 2bd/1ba

Sat & Sun 2-4 510-337-9670 Prudential CA Realty

\$419,000 450 Cola Ballena #E 2+BD/2BA

Sun 2-4 30pm 510-444-5300 Manhattan Real Estate

\$425,000 621 Taylor St 3+BD/1BA

Sun 2-4 510-522-1713 George Williams

\$428,000 2853 Brown St 2bd

Sat & Sun 2-4 510-522-2918 Harbor Bay Realty

\$429,000 812 Height 2bd

Sat & Sun 2-4 510-521-1647 Quinn Stone

\$439,000 1520 3rd St. 2BD/1BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4885 Harbor Bay Realty

\$441,000 909 San Antonio Ave 2bd/1ba

Sun 2-4 510-748-1166 Gallagher & Lindsey

\$444,000 15 2 Centre Court 2BD/2.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-521-1177 Windermere Properties, East Bay, Peter Fletcher

\$449,000 119 Maitland 3BD

Sat & Sun 2-4 510-483-1676 John Bergman

\$449,000 1541 C Santa Clara 2+BD/2.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4846 Janice Payne

\$449,000 3223 Encinal Ave 2bd/2.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-769-1606 Bickley Real Estate

\$449,000 917 Centennial 2BD/2.5BA

Sun 2-4 510-814-4829 Harbor Bay Realty

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Sun 2-4 510-814-4829 Harbor Bay Realty

OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com

Oakland		Oakland		Oakland		Oakland	
\$325,000 2543 Monticello Ave.	2BD/1BA	\$439,000 4912 Lawton Ave.	4BD/2BA	\$625,000 30 Overlake Ct.	3+BD/2BA	\$899,000 13864 Campus Dr.	4 BD/3BA
Sun 2-4-30 Maxwell Park	510-338-1367	Open 4-30 Rockridge	510-339-4700	The Grubb Co., Ed Kuo	510-339-0400	Sun 2-4-30 Oakland Hills	510-339-0400
Pacific Union R.E., Carla Buffington		Coldwell Banker, Andy Usher		The Grubb Co., Sherry Benninger		The Grubb Co., Sherry Benninger	
\$329,000 4427 Virginia Ave	2bd	\$439,000 6020 Leona St.	3+BD/1+BA	\$639,000 5444 Estates	4+BD/3BA	\$899,000 620 Trestle Glen Rd.	4BD/3.5BA
Sun 2-4-30 510-521-1508	510-521-1257	Open 1-430 Oakland Hills	510-339-4700	Richards Realty	925-372-3311	Sun 2-4-30 Crocker Highlands	510-531-7000 x238
Bayside Real Estate Lynn Smith		Coldwell Banker, Victor Ratto				Wells & Bennett Realtors, Patsy Buhler	
\$329,000 5563 Brookdale Ave.	2BD/1BA	\$449,000 21 Ironwood..	2 Bd./2 Ba.	\$639,000 6654 Pine Needle Dr.	3+BD/2.5	\$899,000 7455 Woodrow Dr.	3++BD/2.5
Open 2-5 Coldwell Banker, Judy Ackerman	510-339-4700	Security Pacific, Jamie Lake		Sun 2-4-30 Montclair	510-338-1308	Sun 2-4-30 Montclair	510-338-1302
				The Grubb Co., Dick Cohen		Pacific Union R.E., Nancy Moore	
\$333,000 2325 Valley Street	3BD/2BD	\$449,000 588 61st Street	3BD/1BA	\$649,000 1916 Oak Crest Dr.	3+BD/2BA	\$910,000 1830 Grand View Dr.	2+BD/2+
Sun 2-4-30 510-834-2300	510-834-2300	Open Sun 2-4-30 Anthony Associates, Tom Anthony	510-593-4780	Coldwell Banker, Bonnie Ross	510-339-4700	Sun 2-4-30 Oakland Hills	510-338-1329
Anthony Associates, Tom Anthony		Better Homes Realty, Kevin Brown				Pacific Union R.E., Jeanine Weller	
\$349,950 3927 Edgemoor Pl	3 BD/1 BA	\$450,000 3272 Pleiter Ave.	3BD/2BA	\$659,000 6655 Oakwood Drive	3BD/3BA	\$939,000 711 Spruce St.	3+/2 BA
Sun 2-4-30 510-550-4500	510-550-4500	Sat. Sun 12-4pm Help-U-Sell East Bay, Tony Wright	510-251-6000	Sun 2-4-30 Montclair	510-531-7000 x261	Sun 2-4-30 RED OAK, Arlene Leonoff	
Re/Max, Jacqueline Carter				Wells & Bennett Realtors, Nicolette Bot			
\$350,000 500 Vernon St. #402	2BD/2BA	\$469,000 310-312 Athol.	3BD/1BA	\$659,000 706 Mandana Blvd	3+BD/1.5BA	\$969,000 7112 Westmoreland	4+BD/3.5BA
Sun 2-4-30 510-652-2133	510-652-2133	Sun 2-4-30 Rose Garden The Grubb Co., The Ratcliffes	510-527-2700 X40	Open 2-4-30 Coldwell Banker, Brian Hymer	510-339-4700	Open 2-4-30 Claremont Hills	510-339-4700
The Grubb Co., The Ratcliffes		Marvin Gardens, Ken Katz				Prudential, David Eckert	
\$359,000 2607 Kingsland	2BD/1BA	\$479,000 3620 Seminary Ave.	2+BD/2BA	\$659,000 71 Starview Dr.	3bd/2.5ba	\$985,000 5565 Moraga Ave	4 Bd./4 Ba.
Open 1-4 Coldwell Banker, Jeffrey Neideman	510-339-4700	Open 1-40 Coldwell Banker, Victor Ratto	510-339-4700	Open Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-339-8900 x238	Prudential, Camille Rogers	
				C21 Heritage Real Estate/Helen Nicholas			
\$359,000 3030 Linden St	2+/1 Ba.	\$479,000 4001 Elston Ave	3 bd/1.5 ba	\$669,000 3918 Everett Ave.	4BD/4BA	\$995,000 662 Longridge Rd	4BD/3BA
Sun 2-4-30 510-339-9290	510-339-9290	Sun 2-4-30 Glenview	510-339-8400	Sun 1-4 Prudential CA Realty, Dave Robb	925-283-7000	Sun 1-30-4-30 Claremont Hills	510-834-2010
Prudential-Montclair, Howard Converse		Montclair Better Homes, Patricia Bennett.com				Prudential CA Realty, Dolores Thom	
\$359,000 4643 Fairfax St	3 Bd./1 Ba	\$488,500 364 Lester Ave.	2+BD/2+BA	\$689,000 2811 Steinmetz Way	4 BD/2.5	\$999,000 6350 Contra Costa Rd.	4BD/4BA
Sun 2-4-30 510-868-1465	510-868-1465	Open 1-5 Coldwell Banker, Donna Conroy	510-339-4700	Sun 2-4-30 RED OAK, Marc Guay		Sun 2-4-30 Upper Rockridge	510-531-7000 x290
Prudential, Amy Davis				Wells & Bennett Realtors, Barbara Hendrickson		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Pedram Karbassi	
\$359,000 801 Franklin...	3BD/4.5	\$489,000 4425 Carson St.	3BD/2.5BA	\$699,000 709 Rand	4+bd/2ba	\$999,999 5740 Colton Blvd.	4BD/3.5BA
Sun 2-4-30 510-280-2149	510-280-2149	Sun 2-4-30 Redwood Heights	510-339-0400	Open Sun 1-4 Grand Lake	510-339-8900	Open 2-4-30 Claremont Hills	510-339-4700
RED OAK, Mark Lederer		The Grubb Co., Linda McClain		C21 Heritage Real Estate/Angela Lawson		Prudential, Caren Copland	
\$359,000 8930 Seneca St.	2+BD/1BA	\$499,000 536 45th St ...	5 BD/2 BA	\$735,000 1224 Holman Rd	3+BD/1.5BA		
Open 1-40 Coldwell Banker, Noni Robinson	510-339-4700	Sun 2-4-30 510-280-2126		Open 2-4-30 Coldwell Banker, Ellen Lancaster	510-339-4700		
		The Grubb Co., Leif Janssen					
\$369,000 2316 Lakeshore Ave #2	2BD/2BA	\$510,000 330 Elysian Fields Dr.	3BD/2BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 Lakeshore	510-531-7000 x218	Sun 2-4-30 Sequoia Highlands	510-569-3499	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Wells & Bennett Realtors, Joy Bryden		Richardson R.E. Services, Georgia Richardson		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$369,000 2993 106th Ave.	2+BD/1.5	\$519,000 4280 Howe St.	2D/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 1-4-30 Coldwell Banker, Noni Robinson	510-530-6330	Sun 2-4-30 Piedmont Ave.	510-339-0400	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Assist2Sell, Howard Kane		The Grubb Co., Katherine Cooper		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$369,000 3907 Laguna Ave.	2bd/1ba	\$525,000 6225 Brookside Ave	3 Bd./1 Ba	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Open Sun 2-4-30 Lincoln Heights	510-339-8900 x251	Sun 2-4-30 Upper Rockridge	510-466-4444	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
C21 Heritage Real Estate/Sarah Schisler		Millstein & Assoc., Candace Hyde-Wang		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$375,000 2640 Madera	2BD/3BA	\$529,000 3386 Kiwanis St.	3BD/1+BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 Maxwell Park	510-531-7000 x228	Sun 2-4-30 Redwood Heights	510-338-1352	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Wells & Bennett Realtors, Kelli Phillips		Pacific Union R.E., Diane McCann		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$375,000 371 - 30th St.	2BD/2BA	\$529,000 9229 Skyline Blvd	3 bd/2 ba	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Open 1-5 Coldwell Banker, Elena Stone	510-339-4700	Sun 2-4-30 Piedmont Pines	510/339-8400	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$375,000 7540 Sterling...	2 BD/2BA	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2bd/1.5ba	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 510-834-2010	510-834-2010	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Prudential California Realty, Shirley Covington		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$379,000 240 Caldecott Ln #107	2bd/2ba	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2bd/1.5ba	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Open Sun 2-4-30 Lake Merritt	510-339-8900 x230	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
C21 Heritage Real Estate/Tom Erwin		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$379,000 776 58th St ...	3 Bd/2 Ba	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 510-339-9290	510-339-9290	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Prudential-Montclair, Craig Shang		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$385,000 3008 Partridge	2 Bd./1 Ba	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 510-845-2010	510-845-2010	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Prudential California Realty, Kimm Fitzgerald		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$389,000 3027 California St.	3BD/1BA	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 Laurel	510-339-0400	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
The Grubb Co., Sheila Gallagher		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$389,000 5054 Bancroft Ave	2bd/1ba & 3bd/1ba	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 Oakland	510/339-8400	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Montclair Better Homes, Loc Nguyen		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$395,000 3930 Columbian Dr	3 Bd./2 Ba	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 510-868-1467	510-868-1467	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Roxanne Bruns		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$398,000 2478 Cole St.	3BD/2BA	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Open 2-5-2000 Maxwell Park	510-339-4700	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Coldwell Banker, Terry Anthony		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$399,000 5901 San Pablo Ave	3 bd/1 ba	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 510-339-8400	510-339-8400	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Montclair Better Homes, Rosemary Greene		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$399,950 2558 55th Ave.	3BD/2BA	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sat. Sun 12-4pm	510-251-6000	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Help-U-Sell East Bay, Tony Wright		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$410,000 320 Caldecott Ln #327	2D/2BA	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 510-338-1357	510-338-1357	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Francis Heath		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$419,000 3039 Monticello Ave	3+bd	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sat. Sun 2-4-4225	510-882-4225	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Kane & Associates		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$435,000 4794 Redding St	2BD/2BA	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 510-523-0707	510-523-0707	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Panavista Realty		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			
\$435,000 545 Westfield Way	4BD/3BA	\$545,000 5261 Miles Ave.	2BD/1.5BA	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove	3BD/2BA		
Sun 2-4-30 510-451-7317	510-451-7317	Open 2-4-30 Rockridge	510-339-8900	Sun 2-4-30 Hiller Highlands	510-531-7000 x237		
Valva Realty Co., Mike Bresso		Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri		Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy Callaghan			

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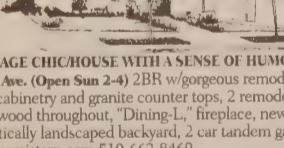
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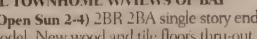
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1755 Cheryl Drive, Livermore \$679,950
4 bd, 2 1/2 ba, exclusive Signature hmg. Huge mstr BDR, Separate Formal Din. Rm., Covered Patio, Upgrades Galore!, 3-Car Garage.

508 Kehn Avenue, Albany \$675,000
3bd, 2ba, totally Remodeled! Stone, Granite, Hardwood, Remodeled Baths, Spa, Large Walk-in Closets.

17040 Esteban, Hayward \$410,000
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2214 Russell Street, Berkeley \$675,000
Triplex, 2 Bd, 1 Ba & Studio. Opportunity knocks. Sought after Berk. loc. Nr. UC, BART & Transp. Seller will carry!

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Last wk This wk
5.500 5.625

Comments: Rates as of 3/1/03

COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock
A Better Mortgage 800-711-0027 DRE#0182773 Fees = \$1969	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .0000 5.820 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 .0000 5.960 .30	15-yr Fixed 5.000 .0000 5.260 .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4,750 .0000 4,830 .30
A Superior Mortgage 800-591-4446 DRE#01351704 Fees = \$1889	30-yr Fixed 5.500 .0000 5.680 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 .0000 6.100 .30	15-yr Fixed 4,875 .0000 5.120 .30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4,125 .0000 4,270 .30
A-Olympic Funding-Best Rate 800-640-5588 DRE#01197415 Fees = \$1820	30-yr Fixed 5.125 .2,000 5.640 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.250 .2,000 5.410 .30	15-yr Fixed 4,375 .2,000 4,685 .30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 4,625 .2,000 4,890 .30
AAA Mortgage 888-821-6200 DRE#106146 Fees = \$1599	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .0,000 5.590 .45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 .0,000 5.789 .45	15-yr Fixed 4,875 .0,000 4,900 .45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,250 .0,000 5,315 .45
AccessBanc Mortgage 800-661-2765 DRE#0092684 Fees = \$1430	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .0,000 5.687 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.780 .0,000 5.781 .30	Jumbo Special*	Jumbo Special*
Bay Area Olympia Funding 888-833-1000 DRE#0197415 Fees = \$1685	30-yr Fixed 5.500 .0,000 5.514 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 .0,000 5.888 .30	3-1 Fix Pay Jmb* 1,850 .0,000 1,863 .30	25-6 INT ONLY JMB 3,500 .0,000 3,512 .30
Cal-State Funding 800-883-5363 DRE#0074441 Fees = \$2010	30-yr Fixed 5.500 .1,000 5.590 .45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 .1,000 5.840 .45	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4,600 .1,000 4,590 .45	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4,125 .1,000 4,220 .45
California Mortgage Mart 800-477-4769 DRE#00406187 Fees = \$1759	30-yr Fixed 5.625 .0,000 5.700 .45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 .0,000 5.780 .45	15-yr Fxd 5,000 .0,000 5,120 .45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,250 .0,000 5,180 .45
California Mtg. Advisor 888-CAL-REFI x600 DRE#01170866 Fees = \$1992	30-yr Fixed 5.500 .1,500 5.725 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 .0,500 5.835 .30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 3,750 .0,625 3,836 .30	5-1 INTEREST ONLY MEGA JMB 3,500 .0,000 3,512 .30
CMG Mortgage 800-595-5339 DRE#01170208 Fees = \$1433	30-yr Fixed 5.500 .1,000 5.655 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 .1,000 5.870 .30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 3,500 .1,000 3,605 .30	No Cost Loans Available Great Home Equity Loans Open 24/7 @ www.aaaer.com
Downey Savings & Loan 800-793-2148 DOC#6037471 Fees = \$1428	30-yr Fixed 5.375 .1,750 5.562 .60	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 .1,625 5.915 .60	1-mo COFI ARM* 2,450 .1,000 5,050 .45	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4,250 .1,000 4,420 .45
eSource Mortgage, Inc. 888-221-9878 DOC#6038477 Fees = \$1352	30-yr Fixed 5,250 .1,750 5,390 .60	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,750 .0,625 5,880 .60	15-yr Fixed 4,750 .1,750 4,940 .60	OPTION ARM 1,950 .0,000 4,330 .60
Golden Horizon Mortgage 877-414-8280 DRE#031694 Fees = \$1939	30-yr Fixed 5,750 .0,000 5,827 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6,250 .0,000 6,300 .30	15-yr Fixed 5,000 .0,000 5,127 .30	Low rates with NO POINTS ALSO NO CLOSING COSTS AVAILABLE Pics. online @ www.escoursemortgag.com
Imperial Mortgage 800-961-2274 DRE#01033951 Fees = \$1453	30-yr Fixed 5,625 .1,000 5,803 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,750 .1,000 5,903 .30	15-yr Fixed 4,875 .1,000 5,170 .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4,500 .1,000 4,620 .30
Lenders Northstar Mtg Grp 925-284-3960 DRE#1345744 Fees = \$2224	30-yr Fixed 5,500 .1,000 5,680 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,750 .0,625 5,888 .30	15-yr Fixed 4,750 .1,125 5,080 .30	5/1 ARM 4,625 .0,500 4,855 .30
Matrix Investment Corp. 800-366-8916 DOC#130418 Fees = \$2416	30-yr Fixed 5,125 .1,880 5,360 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,250 .1,980 5,406 .30	15-yr Fixed 4,260 .1,880 4,716 .30	30-yr Fixed 0 Pts 5,600 .0,000 5,609 .30
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 DRE#00887562 Fees = \$1875	30-yr Fixed 5,875 .0,000 5,967 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6,000 .0,000 6,093 .30	15-yr Fixed 5,250 .0,000 5,402 .30	Credit problems, bankruptcy, etc. Brokers welcome! Visit us at www.matrixinvestmentcorp.com
Northern Mutual Corp. 888-441-2600 DRE#01243548 Fees = \$2648	30-yr Fixed call . . .	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call . . .	20-yr Fxd Jumbo call . . .	WOW! Look at our Jumbo int. rates! guaranteed closing costs won't be at closing. E-mail Steve at www.24hourloancenter.com
Omni Funding Services 800-303-8887 DRE#01183855 Fees = \$2051	30-yr Fixed 5,625 .1,500 5,881 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,750 .1,500 5,992 .30	15-yr Fixed 4,875 .1,500 5,092 .30	Check our site for more info. We are committed to EXCELLENCE!
Pacific West Financial 800-798-7334 DRE#01124581 Fees = \$1694	30-yr Fixed 5,625 .0,000 5,729 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,675 .0,000 5,925 .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4,625 .0,000 4,687 .30	Se Habla Espanol 100% purchase loans Credit Problems OK
Premier Mortgage Group 888-389-6633 DOC#4130988 Fees = \$1992	30-yr Fixed 5,500 .0,000 5,659 .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,750 .0,000 5,776 .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4,625 .0,000 4,245 .30	Call or apply online: www.NEWMORTGAGE.COM
ProMortgage 877-552-2700 DRE#01230152 Fees = \$1481	30-yr Fixed 5,875 .0,000 5,946 .45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,975 .0,000 5,906 .45	15-yr Fixed 5,375 .0,000 5,426 .30	No cost preapproval, credit line, construction Purchases-Located in Lafayette, CA
Saratoga Bancorp 800-935-6266 DRE#0122026 Fees = \$1893	30-yr Fixed 5,750 .0,000 5,810 .45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6,000 .0,000 6,028 .45	5/1 ARM 4,375 .0,000 5,108 .45	Get rates online at www.pmgmortgage.com
A American Resid. Lend. 800-566-8470 DRE#010440 Fees = \$1624	30-yr Fixed 5,500 .0,000 5,620 .45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5,750 .0,000 5,810 .45	15-yr Fixed 4,875 .0,000 4,910 .45	Now open Saturdays 9-3 evenings until 8:00 pm. Purchases may be 15% lower!
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\$1,149,750
Sun 2-4:30
4 BR 3.5 BA New construction-truly quality. Mediterranean-style villa. Bay views, chef's kitchen, nearly-level yard area, tranquil creek setting, great privacy.

David Eckert 510.339.4700

HILLER HIGHLANDS
6750 Charing Cross Rd. Sun 2-4:30
\$1,050,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Custom-built contemporary. Volume ceilings, spacious kitchen, roomy bedrooms, family room, 2FP, FDR, serene master w/paird baths & slate floors.

Lydia Nayo 510.339.4700

OAKLAND
6167 Ocean View Dr.
\$1,166,000
Sun 1-4
4 BR 2.5 BA 8 rooms. Upper Rockridge. Clementine Pines. Built 1993, this stately traditional 2-story home offers amenities, customizations & touches of hills.

Casey Asche 510.486.1495

BERKELEY
530 Woodmont
\$1,200,000
Sun 1-4
4 BR 2.5 BA Large 2-story home, approx. 7,300 sq ft. Renovated interior, outdoors, outdoor flow. Great

Linda Gerson

CLAREMONT HILLS
7112 Westmoreland Sun 2-4:30
\$969,000
4+ BR 3.5 BA Back on market-huge price reduction. New construction. Bay views, gourmet kitchen, lavish master suite, private guest quarters, high-end finishes.

David Eckert 510.339.4700

ROCKRIDGE
4912 Lawton Ave. Sun 1-4:30
\$439,000
4 BR 2 BA Spacious older 2-story Farmhouse near Rockridge amenities! Special & unusual: freshly painted; many upgrades. Small lot, but very private setting.

Andy Shear 510.339.4700

CROCKER HIGHLANDS
1224 Holman Rd. Sun 2-5
3+ BR 1.5 BA Stunning Old World style home circa 1923; renovated kitchen & baths, deck, balcony, sunroom.

Ellen Lancaster

FIRST OPEN
22 Chambers Lane Sun 2-4
4 BR 2 BA Mid-Century Modern home w/walls of glass, plan deck/garden entry, large kitchen, 2-car garage, serene local.

Lydia Nayo

ROCKRIDGE (UPPER)
23 Buena Vista Pl Sun 2-5
2 BR 2 BA - studio apt. Sunny. 1918 Medit. Bay view! Nice details. Vaulted ceiling LR, FDR, FP, HWF, newer kit, HWF, nice FP, gar. Photos: rubbyng.com

Ruby Ng 510.339.4700

BERKELEY
2619 Etna St. C Sun 2-4
\$375,000
2 BR 2 BA Townhome in Super Elmwood location. Fireplace, deck, laundry, parking. Close to UC, shopping & transportation.

Maxine Malberg 510.486.1495

MONTCLAIR
22 Chambers Lane Sun 2-4
4 BR 2 BA Mid-Century Modern home w/walls of glass, plan deck/garden entry, large kitchen, 2-car garage, serene local.

Lydia Nayo

CLAREMONT HILLS
7245 Buckingham Blvd. Sun 2-4:30
\$795,000
4 BR 3 BA Sunny & bright Contemp. Fabulous space for entertaining. Open floor plan creates terrific flow; generous 2-car garage; Some views too! Don't miss!

Karen Lum 510.339.4700

PILL HILL
371 30Th St. Sun 1-5
1 BR 1 BA New condominium. 9' ceilings, HWF, granite & stainless steel kitchens, German & Italian fixtures, washer/dryer hook-ups, garage.

Elena Stone 510.339.4700

CHINA HILL
634 Lester Ave. Sun 1-5
2+ BR 2 BA Versatile floor plan; main level 2000+ sq ft used as master suite; separate in-law w/kitchen & bath.

Donna Conroy

CROCKER HIGHLANDS
706 Mandana Blvd. Sun 2-4:30
\$659,000
3+ BR 1.5 BA Spacious charming Craftsman with large living room, formal dining, country kitchen, recreation room, plus room, sunny yard, patio, garden, lawn.

Dian Hymer 510.339.4700

OAKLAND
8930 Seneca St. Sun 1-4:30
\$359,000
2+ BR 1 BA Gorgeous Bungalow-wooded setting. Bonus room with 1BR/1BA & private deck. Refinished hardwood floors, freshly painted inside & out.

Noni Robinson 510.339.4700

MILLSMONT
3620 Seminary Ave. Sun 1-4:30
2+ BR 2 BA Tudor-style home on upper Seminary Dr.

windows, upgraded kitchen, bath, electrical, garage, 2 FP, HWF, eat-in kitchen.

Victor Ratto

OAKMERE
1916 Oak Crest Dr. Sun 2-5
\$649,000
3+ BR 2 BA Traditional, elegant 1940's home w/style! Updated kitchen, FDR, MBR w/FP, HWF. Beautiful yard w/outdoor fireplace & hot tub! Great location!

Bonnie Ross 510.339.4700

MAXWELL PARK
5563 Brookdale Ave. Sun 2-5
\$329,000
2 BR 1 BA Cute Bungalow w/built-ins, large eat-in kitchen, FDR, sep. laundry; fresh paint; great floor plan; deck & fenced yard.

Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700

REDWOOD HEIGHTS
4315 Atlas Ave. Sun 2-5
\$539,000
2+ BR 1 BA Charming Traditional waiting for you! Formal living and dining room; big deck off kitchen; large extra space down.

Carol Brown 510.339.4700

PILL HILL
371 30Th St. Sun 1-5
1 BR 1 BA New condominium. 9' ceilings, HWF, granite & stainless steel kitchens, German & Italian fixtures, washer/dryer hook-ups, garage.

Elena Stone 510.339.4700

BERKELEY
1227 Neilson St. Sun 2-5
\$499,000
2 BR 1 BA Westbrae gem beautifully remodeled. Newly redone h/wd flrs, triple, new kitchen & bath, new wood windows. French doors to Mediterranean veranda/garden.

Josh Whitter 510.486.1495

OAKLAND
8930 Seneca St. Sun 1-4:30
\$359,000
2+ BR 1 BA This 1912 Tudor is near campus, restaurants & shops. Enjoy HWF, formal living & dining, attic, large extra space, charming staircase & serene garden.

Dell Orr 510.339.4700

FIRST OPEN
2441 Carleton St. Sun 2-4:30
\$745,000
3+ BR 1 BA This 1912 Tudor is near campus, restaurants & shops. Enjoy HWF, formal living & dining, attic, large extra space, charming staircase & serene garden.

Dell Orr 510.339.4700

OAKLAND HILLS
6020 Lecona St. Sun 1-4:30
\$439,000
3+ BR 1 full BA + 2 half Custom home w/arts & crafts features, bonus room & workshop; landscaped front/back yard; garage w/interior access; FP, HWF, mature oaks; peek of Bay.

Victor Ratto 510.339.4700

BERKELEY (SOUTH CAMPUS)
3724 Cole St. Sun 2-5
\$250,000
1 BR 1 BA This 1912 Tudor is near campus, restaurants & shops. Enjoy HWF, formal living & dining, attic, large extra space, charming staircase & serene garden.

ALLENDALE
3724 Cole St. Sun 2-5
2+ BR 1 BA Wow! Craftsman w/Artist's Studio. Upgrades include breakfast nook, FDR, living room w/FP, HWF, L-shaped

roses, gardenia, fruit trees, large deck.

Adele M. Wong

BERKELEY (SOUTH CAMPUS)
3724 Cole St. Sun 2-5
\$250,000
1 BR 1 BA This 1912 Tudor is near campus, restaurants & shops. Enjoy HWF, formal living & dining, attic, large extra space, charming staircase & serene garden.

MAXWELL PARK
2607 Kingsland Sun 1-4
2+ BR 1 BA Charming Bungalow. Large front room, rear room, large front yard, fruit trees, convenient location, upgrade.

Jeffrey Neidleman

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SPORTS

• Friday, March 21, 2003 •

Section C

Yellow Jackets' 'off night' costly

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

By Bill Kruissink
STAFF WRITER
Berkeley High School basketball team found a quick and relentless as we stopped the No. 2 Yellow Jackets 62-40 in the semifinal of the California Interscholastic Federation North Divisional tournament at Haas Pavilion on March 13. Cardinals' victory ended Yellow Jackets' (26-6) season as the team's 13-game streak.

Mayol also knew what to expect from Berkeley — not much height, but plenty of speed. Interestingly, that is also what the Cardinals (31-2) brought to the floor.

"I think we had an off night," Berkeley center Andrea Keys said. "We took them too lightly." "We played them twice last year and we knew coming in we were the better team," Cardinals coach Glenn Mayol said.

Keys scored the final two points of the first quarter and Danesha Wright opened the second half with a 3-pointer from the left wing, cutting the Cardinals' advantage to 22-11.

Gaining confidence under the glass, Amber Cox scored off the offensive boards and Brittany Moore struck for 2 to close the

Laguna Creek never trailed Berkeley. Sparked by guard India McDaniel, who scored nine of her team-high 16 points in the first quarter, the Cardinals jumped out to a 22-6 lead with 1:51 to go in the first period.

Then it was the Yellow Jackets' turn to run up the score. Keys scored the final two points of the first quarter and Danesha Wright opened the second half with a 3-pointer from the left wing, cutting the Cardinals' advantage to 22-11.

Gaining confidence under the glass, Amber Cox scored off the offensive boards and Brittany Moore struck for 2 to close the gap to 22-15.

The Yellow Jackets finished the half trailing 24-20. They had limited the Cardinals to just two free throws in the period.

"The second quarter, we started to play a little better defense," Nakamura said. "But in the third quarter you could see they were ready to come back and play hard."

It was 28-25 with 6:20 remaining in the third period. Then the Cardinals took over. Ashton Gibson pumped in nine points as Laguna Creek muscled into a 40-27 lead with 2:27 to go in the third. Berkeley was never closer than 11 points again.



DOUG DURAN/STAFF

BERKELEY HIGH'S Michi Yamamoto, right, and her teammates didn't have an answer for Laguna Creek-Elk Grove.

BOYS BASKETBALL

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER
Berkeley High School basketball team had Oakland on the ropes. But the had one weapon in the Interscholastic Federation Division I semifinal at Haas Pavilion at UC that the Yellow Jackets match.

Oakland Tech's All forward, scored 36 including 10 points in overtime to propel the Bulldogs overtime victory over Yellow Jackets on March 13.

"I battled every second," coach Mike Gragnani said. "I'm going to come out here everything blazing. We're going to do anything

Yellow Jackets (25-6) within milliseconds of a set of the Bulldogs (22-

Yellow Jackets' Kenneth Alexander had a dynamic game, but shot as the fourth-quarter sounded for what we've been the game-winner. But as Berkeley fans

BOYS, Page 2

BASEBALL
EW

count on
sugars
repeat

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

is a more clear-cut fa-

in a league title in East

school baseball than the

sugars, they have yet to

themselves.

sugars have nine play-

ing from a team that

overall and won the

with a 12-3 record.

the BSAL going

round-robin (and no

format, Albany will

try to win more

which opens league

against John Swett in

is 4-0 in nonleague

so good.

It will be tough and

Mary's, John Swett

to win their fair

games. Piedmont,

a just Section team the

years, will have to do

hitting and defense.

It comes right down

Albany.

which goes well, we

pretty good, barring

we don't get caught

else," second-year

coach Jim Giblin

SEBALL, Page 2

PREP TRACK



JOANNA JHAN/STAFF

BERKELEY HIGH'S Alex Enscoe passed four runners in the final 300 yards to win the 1,600 meters.

Enscoe's finishing kick too much

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

Alameda High School track and field coach Brian Lodge describes it as "The Kiss of Death."

Watching his runner, Yoji Reichert, compete in the same (fast) heat of the boys 1,600 meters at the Bay Area Distance Festival last Friday at Piedmont High, Lodge was remarking on the great finishing kick of Berkeley High junior Alex Enscoe.

"That kick is something," Lodge said. "It's one of the best I've seen. He just turns it on."

While Lodge was saying this, Yosef Ghebray, the super sophomore from James Logan, was leading the race after three laps.

Enscoe at times had fallen back to fifth in the race, but with about 300 yards left, decided to try to win the race.

Enscoe flashed past Jake Schmitt of Redwood and then Reichert, taking dead aim on Ghebray. He caught the Logan runner with about 100 yards to go and won going away, finishing the race in 4 minutes, 23.6 seconds. Ghebray was second in 4:24.2.

Reichert, Lodge's runner? He finished fourth behind Schmitt in 4:27.6.

Enscoe's performance was one of the best in a meet that was full of great marks. Wind and rain (horizontal at times) lashed

Witter Field and had a dampening effect on times. For the first time in the five-year history of the Distance Festival, no meet records were set.

But that did not detract from Enscoe's effort.

"I got a little further back than I wanted to," he said. "but I'm pretty used to kicking. I definitely wanted to win and I wanted to stay with the leaders. I got held up and I was boxed in a couple of times."

"I was a little further back at the 1200 mark than I wanted to be, so I had to go there and do it."

It was only Enscoe's second race of the young season; he had

run a relay leg for Berkeley at the San Rafael Twilight Relays on March 8.

He's planning on running the 1,600 this season, "but I'm keeping an open mind on the other events," he said. "I'd like to get as close to 4:10 (in the 1,600) as I can. That's my goal. I don't know how reasonable that is. My best was 4:20 last year."

The conditions didn't seem to bother him. "I kind of liked it," he said.

Enscoe also ran in the fast heat of the 800 and finished fifth in 2:03.4. Daniel Wold of Freeborn won the race in 2:01.7.

BSAL NOTEBOOK

St. Mary's misses festival

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT at Piedmont High School last Friday — a night not fit for man nor beast.

But the fifth annual Bay Area Distance Festival went on as planned — bless all-weather tracks — and more than 30 schools and 700 athletes showed up.

Unfortunately, conditions did not permit any meet records in the events (the boys and girls 1,600 meters, the boys and girls 800 meters, and the 3,200-meter races), but there was one notable absence.

Where was St. Mary's High School? The Panthers usually send a gaggle of runners in all divisions, but there was nary a cat runner to be seen. The appearance of sophomore Gabriela Rios-Sotelo, for instance, might have spurred a record attempt, despite the deplorable conditions.

"We sent the entries in by the (Feb. 7) deadline," St. Mary's athletic director Jay Lawson said, "but Doyle (O'Regan, the meet director) warned us by e-mail the events might fill up before the deadline.

"That's what happened. The boys side was filled and the girls events had only enough room for three athletes. It wasn't worth it. We spent the weekend just working out."

If things had gone according to plan, Lawson estimates there would have been at least 15 entries.

See BSAL, Page 2

ACCAL NOTEBOOK

Berkeley boys run out of time

By Orlando Molina
TIMES STAFF WRITER

MARCH 13 WAS NOT very kind to Berkeley High School's boys and girls basketball teams last week as both squads were beaten in their respective semifinals contests in the California Interscholastic Federation Division I tournament.

Perhaps the most painful loss was dealt to the Berkeley boys in a 73-64 overtime loss to Oakland Tech at Cal's Hass Pavilion.

Tied 57-57 with just seconds left in regulation, Yellow Jackets' forward Kenneth Alexander made a short bucket, which would have given Berkeley the game and a shot at the regional title. But the basket fell fractions of a second too late, and officials waved it off as throngs of Berkeley fans stormed the court in a premature celebration.

See ACCAL, Page 2

Community theater

first opens a moving production
announced for "Oliver!"

Balkanization of Berkeley?

■ Ashkenaz hosts a celebration of Balkan music and dance tomorrow. Page C3

It's showtime

■ Capsule reviews and showing times are your guide to going to the movies. Page C4

Review

■ Airline comedy "View from the Top" doesn't qualify as top-flight entertainment. Page C5

Arts



hype,
od; news
pe, bad

ELISION, someone
wryly observed, "is
an art form trapped
in an industry." But to
degrees, so is all art.
cial considerations all
separate visual and
ing artists from their
visions (Hollywood is
the most extreme ex-
). Too often, success in
your art to a wider au-
is not simply a matter of

one recurrent theme
ark, a worthwhile and
us new weekly series
on Bay Area artists —
dancers, actors, vi-
— produced by
TV Channel 9, premier-
Friday at 7:30 p.m.
"goes behind the scenes" to show viewers the ac-
process. You hear
ories not often seen or
the general public.
"could become a
rtists and art pa-
the handsome show also
retro graphics, tasty
on-screen listings of
events, plus a Web
eakwood.org/spark/ that
we dive into local art
shows.

just participated in a
rical production, I
the appreciation of
e effort and the
e required to make a
open. The anxieties of
ight are highlighted
day's first installment
"which looks at the
the new Asian Art Mu-
also goes backstage
re of the San Fran-
ller's ambitious new
ing of "Don Quixote."
second installa-
ow San Francisco
odyssey Rasta Thomas
LA, where he per-
a show directed by
Allen and where he
an agent and
TV roles. "If I could
the talented young
s, I'd prefer to sell
my art intact."

the involving segment
an up-and-coming
st graphic artist
hanson, an easygoing
type. On "Spark" you
ould encounter with
big-time art world
lends an exhibit at the
Whitney Museum.
shows Johanson and his
mically trying to find
multimedia exhibit in
wealthy Big Apple art
and critics stream in and
approval, Johanson,
painting at his day
skateboards, then
signs, "Being famous
a drag." Perhaps, but
support oneself.

ing "Spark" segments
San Francisco
conductor Michael
Thomas reflecting on the
who helped shape his
piece on well-known
musician Ali Akbar
has shown passing
gift to students.

pulls off a difficult
mystifying the artis-
t's by showing work
about what they do.
they do it. Plus,
one of the few
ever seen that actu-
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E-mail Bill: News-
net.net



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

THE GROUP Edessa will be one of the groups performing in Saturday's concert celebrating the 30th anniversary of Ashkenaz.

Balkanization is a good thing

■ Balkan music and dance is celebrated in an event hosted by and benefiting Ashkenaz

By Brian Kluepfel

CORRESPONDENT

Perhaps it was at a Greek wedding. Or maybe at a circumcision or even a strike. But it certainly was while playing Balkan music that Lise Liepman found her spiritual home, and she continues to build and foster the dance and musical traditions of that region in the East Bay.

Liepman moved to Berkeley more than 30 years ago and soon became enamored of the Balkan dance scene fostered by Ashkenaz founder David Nadel. In homage to the late activist and nightclub owner, Liepman has invited about 80 of her musical cohorts (comprising 20 different groups) to the San Pablo Avenue club this Saturday to help celebrate its 30th anniversary and raise funds to keep the music playing.

Liepman's interest in Balkan music quickly led her from the dance floor to the performing stage, and one of her bands, Edessa (named for a town in Greek Macedonia), will play Saturday.

CONCERT

WHAT: Balkan Musical Celebration

WHEN: 7 p.m., Saturday, March 22

WHERE: Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley

TICKETS: \$15

INFORMATION: 510-525-5054

"I started in the Westwind Dance Company, and many of us were dancing to taped music — there was no live music," said Liepman. Through the '70s, she said, more musicians began coming to America, fostering an environment where novices could both dance to live music and learn to play the instruments. George Chittenden, Liepman's husband and a fellow Edessa member, found inspiration through just such a Turkish drumming workshop, thus beginning a musical adventure for the couple that continues today.

Liepman and Chittenden lived in Greece and Turkey for a year, an experience she remembers as "heaven!" Liepman now teaches dance workshops at Ashkenaz and other Bay Area locales, in addition to playing accordion and santouri (Greek hammered dulcimer). Chittenden has a musical bag

of tricks, including the clarinet, saxophone, Bulgarian bagpipe and the zurna, a Turkish double-reed instrument. Percussionist Dan Aviul and violinist Ari Langer round out the Edessa sound.

Liepman said Balkan dancing and music foster connections.

"I love getting beginners excited about the dancing," she said. "You can join in very simply to begin with; and (use) just a basic vocabulary of moves."

Many Balkan dances create a powerful sense of belonging because they are performed in a circle, she said, with people often holding hands.

"After a little while you really start to feel like you belong to a community," she said.

Some all-star members of that community will be at Ashkenaz on Saturday, including the Bebelekov Family — Bulgarian champion bagpipe player Vassil Bebelekov and his wife, singer Maria Bebelekov, and his son.

Also making appearances are well-known Oakland a cappella ensemble Kitka and Rummen Shopov and Friends. Shopov, a Bulgarian Rom, or gypsy, has put together "a really hot band," said Liepman. She said sharing the stage with such performers was "an incredible honor."

Some musicians will be big treks to pay tribute to the local Balkan scene and Nadel. Joining Zapadne Lole, a group that plays music from Croatia, Serbia and Bosnia, will be a violin player from Seattle. "Mark Forry is a wonderful singer," Liepman said of Zapadne Lole's front man.

A community legacy

Edessa also has done some long-distance traveling — with a Balkan dance camp in Japan — to spread the music.

"There's something appealing about this music," said Liepman. "Maybe it's a place of passion that we don't have in (American) culture. It's not my ethnic background, but once I went to my first Greek dance and saw people moving together in that way, I felt like I'd come home."

Liepman talked about David Nadel's legacy to the community. "He started all this because his first love was Balkan dancing and he wanted a place where you could dance past midnight," she said. "Here we are, 30 years later, with a lot of the same people."

Rian Kluepfel is a freelance journalist who has lived in the 'burbs, the Bronx, Bolivia and Berkeley. He can be reached at bkluepfel@hotmail.com.

'Cow' follows family from East to West



JACK TUCKER
Community Theater

IT WOULD spoil some of the fun of "The Great Celestial Cow," Sue Townsend's moving and episodic play at TheaterFIRST, to describe the creature in detail. Let's just say there is a "cow," and this contraption, complete with anatomically correct udder, leads to an essential suspension of disbelief that ends with a kind of amused acceptance and even affection.

The story, told in a series of vignettes ranging from India to London between 1975 and 1984, follows a family moving from their Indian village to settle in England.

The play moves among several layers of human experiences, from reactions to cultural differences to the age-related attitudes of three generations — a husband and wife, their children, and the husband's mother and aunt.

The central character in this wrenching change is Sita, the wife and mother, delightfully played with a blend of wide-eyed wonder and keen practicality by Rica Anderson. Her sensitive and nuanced performance bridges the conflicting components of the play.



RACHEL REHMET, left, Rica Anderson and Lauren Grace perform in TheaterFIRST's production of

A note of poignancy is provided by the experience of the children in their new home. Prem (Rishi Shukla), the son and future head of the family, is treated as its "golden child." His behavior degenerates in proportion to his family's doing.

Meanwhile, the daughter, Bibi (Ruchira Shah), gets short shrift and little encouragement as she over-achieves at school, eventually finding her own path to rebellion against the

strictures of her family and community.

There is a touching and timely air about "Cow" that serves the seriousness of its message of acculturation. And yet it exudes a warm familial humor — without descending to sit-com merriment — that softens, perhaps too much, the real struggles of this blending of East and West.

The strong and focused cast also includes, often in multiple roles, Ekow Daniels, Amit

Garg, Lauren Grace, Viji Raghu Nath, Rachel Rehmet and Sandy Schlechter.

Fragmented by Townsend's episodic telling of this wide-canvas story, played on an almost bare space in Oakland's YWCA, 1515 Webster St., it's a challenging play to produce, but director Clive Chafer has accomplished it with high spirit, grace and respect.

See THEATER, Page C5

EVENTS

STAGE

ALTARENA PLAYHOUSE — "Over the River and Through the Woods" by Joe DiPietro, closing March 22. A hit comedy about a young man whose decision about his future sparks an eruption of unsolicited advice, matchmaking, meddling and unending food from his four Italian-American grandparents.

\$12 general; \$9 seniors and students. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; 1409 High Street, Alameda, 510-523-1553 or www.altarena.org

BERKELEY REPETORATORY THEATRE — "Fraulein Else" by Francesca Faridany, closing March 28. Adapted from a 1921 novella by Viennese writer Arthur Schnitzler, this is the world premiere of the play about a young, beautiful and witty woman who runs into horrible trouble while vacationing at an Italian spa.

\$38 to \$54 general; \$19 to \$27 seniors and students; \$20 under age 30. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thrust Stage, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-647-2949 or www.berkeleyrep.org

CALIFORNIA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL — "Gala Bellissima," March 22, 8 p.m. An elegant evening inspired by all things Italian is taking place to benefit the Cal Shakes' Annual Fund and the Theatre's Artistic Learning Initiative. The evening includes live and silent auctions, dinner, cocktails, dancing and live music from Steve Lucky and the Rumba Bums.

\$175 to \$250. The Historic Rotunda Building, Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, 510-548-3222, ext. 125 or www.calshakes.org

EIGHTH STREET STUDIO THEATRE — "Oedipus Rex" adaptation by Nicholas Rudall, closing March 30.

Featuring the cast of Shotgun Players and guest performers from Darvag, this is a soulful translation of the famous Greek drama.

\$18 general; \$12 seniors and students. \$20 opening night with reception; \$10 Thursdays. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 7 p.m. 2525 Eighth St., Berkeley, 510-704-8210 or www.shotgunplayers.org

IMPACT THEATRE — "Scab" by Sheila Callaghan, through April 5. The story of Anna, who is falling in love with her roommate and best friend.

Christa. Meanwhile Christa is secretly sleeping with Anna's ex-boyfriend.

\$15 general; \$10 seniors and students. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; La Val's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid St., Berkeley, 510-464-4468 or www.impacttheatre.com

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE — "Cinderella Waltz" by Don Nigro, March 28 through May 3. This takes the story of Cinderella and her Prince and little further. It examines the idea of love being something different and possibly dangerous.

\$13. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; April 6, April 13 and April 27, 2:30 p.m. 105 Park Place, Richmond, 510-232-4031 or www.masquers.org

THEATREFIRST — "The Great Celestial Cow" by Sue Townsend, through April 6. A humorous and touching story of a family emigrating from India to England in the '70s.

\$16 to \$19 general; \$3 off for students, seniors; half-price for under 25. Oakland YWCA, 1515 Webster, Oakland, 510-436-5085 or www.theatrefirst.com

TRANSPARENT THEATRE — "The Rehearsal" by Mark Chappell and Alan Connor Hamilton, closing March 23. The audience is brought into the making of an obscure fictional Hungarian play titled "The Ear."

\$20 general; pay-what-you-can Sunday, Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 7 p.m. 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-0305 or www.transparenttheatre.org

WILDE IRISH PRODUCTIONS — "The Importance of Being Oscar" by Michael Liam Mac Liamor, closing March 23.

A theatrical journey through Oscar Wilde's life. \$8 to \$20. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-7287 or 510-558-1381 or www.wildeirish.org

POPULAR MUSIC

ASHKENAZ — Native Elements, March 21, 9 p.m. With Dan Spencer, Ridimatics, Pacific Vibrations and Shashamani SoundSystem. A benefit concert in the month-long celebration of the 30th anniversary of Ashkenaz. \$15.

Shashamani SoundSystem, March 23, 10 p.m. \$6.

DP and The Rhythm Riders, March 25, 8:30 p.m. Cajun-zydeco band. \$9.

Grateful Dead DJ Nite, March 27, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. \$6.

Laurie Lewis and Kathy Kallick, Bluegrass Intentions and Stairwell Sisters, March 28, 8 p.m. A benefit concert in the month-long celebration of the 20th anniversary of Ashkenaz. \$15.

Zydeco Flames, Tom Rigney and Flambeau, Aux Cajunale, March 29, 9 p.m. \$15. A benefit concert in the month-long celebration of the 20th anniversary of Ashkenaz.

1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley, 510-525-5055 or www.ashkenaz.com

BLAKE'S ON TELEGRAPH — Danceman Shank, March 21. With Thunderpussy and Bray.

Alphabet Soup, March 22. With Greans, LT and the Friendly Traveler, March 23. With Pollock and Homonym and Tyrant.

All Star Jam, March 24. With The Steve Gannon Band and Mz. Dee.

Third World, With MC UC BUU, March 25. With DJs Kuu and Curious.

Acoustic Wednesday with Mikie Lee Prasad, March 26, 10 p.m. In the Tinman bar.

See EVENTS, Page C5

NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Mary F. Pols, Times; Robert W. Butler, Christine Dolan, Karen Heller and Chris Hewitt, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Glenn Lovell, Bruce Newman, San Jose Mercury News; David Germain, Christy Lemire, Ben Nuckols, Malcolm Ritter and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Bruce Westbrook, Houston Chronicle; Jan Stuart, Newsday; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elvis Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Jack Mathews, New York Daily News; Evan Hensler, Valerie Kuklenski, Fred Shuster, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Manohla Dargis, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Nancy Churnin, Gary Dowell, Charles Ealy, Tom Mauro, Chris Vognar, Matt Weitz and Philip Wunctch, Dallas Morning News; Christopher Kelly and Robert Philpot, Fort Worth Star-Telegram; Jay Boyar, Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Joe Baltake, Sacramento Bee; Ann Hornaday and Stephen Hunter, Washington Post.

"ABOUT SCHMIDT": If you love Jack Nicholson, see Alexander Payne's ("Election") dark and rather mournful comedy should be high on your list. It

OPENING TODAY

"BOAT TRIP" (R)
Straight guy (Cuba Gooding Jr.) gets on a cruise ship looking for love, only to find it's a gay cruise. Fortunately, there's a cute female dance instructor on board.

"DREAMCATCHER" (R)
Four childhood friends meet for a reunion in the woods and encounter a terrifying alien force traveling within a blizzard. Based on the Stephen King novel and starring Morgan Freeman, Jason Lee and Tim Sizemore.

features the actor in a state of mind in which we rarely see him: vulnerable, soul-searching and compromising in a way that ordinary people must often be. He is Nebraskan Warren Schmidt, recently retired and widowed, and realizing how futile his life has been. Only means to salvation: Stop his daughter (Hope Davis) from marrying a doofus waterbed salesman (Demot Murrey). — M. Pols. (R: language and brief nudity.) 2 hours, 4 minutes. A

"ADAPTATION": This latest collaboration from director Spike Jonze and

"PIGLET'S BIG MOVIE" (G)
Piglet feels too small to be of any use to anyone, so he runs away, and Pooh and the gang must track him down.

"STONE READER" (NR)
A documentary about a man's quest to find an elusive writer who wrote one great book and then disappeared.

"VIEW FROM THE TOP" (PG-13)
Comedy about a woman (Gwyneth Paltrow) who dreams of being a first-class international flight attendant.

screenwriter Charlie Kaufman, the "Being John Malkovich" team, is a heady, happy jumble of thought and storytelling, an insane comic undertaking that ultimately coheres into a sane and breathtakingly creative film. Ostensibly, it's about adapting Susan Orlean's book, "The Orchid Thief," to film, with Nicolas Cage doing double duty as the tortured screenwriter and his more successful twin brother. Add Meryl Streep as the author, doing shockingly un-Streepian things, and an Oscar-worthy performance by

Chris Cooper ("Lone Star"). — M. Pols. (R: language, sexuality, some drug use and violent images.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. A

"AGENT CODY BANKS": The plot, such as it is, concerns Cody (Frankie Muniz), a middle-class Seattle teen who attends secret spy camp and is hired by the CIA to court Natalie (Hillary Duff), daughter of the richest absent-minded scientist in movie history, unwittingly in canots with evil guys threatening to — what else? — take over the world. This movie is written and directed on auto-pilot, containing every cliche endemic to these movies: clueless parents, bratty brother, nasty rich kids, pool fight, food fight, girls who can't drive. — K. Heller. (PG: action violence, mild language, sexuality.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. D

"AMANDA! A REVOLUTION IN FOUR PART HARMONY": This documentary about the toppling of apartheid and South Africa's long struggle for liberation from white domination threads together interviews and archival clips with a percolating soundtrack. Director Lee Hirsch makes the case that musical expression was central to the push for self-determination. Every chapter in the often brutal, ultimately triumphant saga is accompanied by songs of defiance, mourning, pride and despair. "Amanda!" is the Xhosa word for power, and the film certainly lives up to its name. — A.O. Scott. (PG-13: scenes of rioting and police brutality, and discussions of torture.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. B+

Everyone seems to have a good time. If you can ignore the plot contrivances, so will you. — P. Wuntch. (PG-13: language, drugs, sexuality, nudity, violence.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. B-

"CATCH ME IF YOU CAN": Director Steven Spielberg has pulled off a neat feat, with two cool movies in one year. He's likely to get more praise for the darkly futuristic "Minority Report," but the pleasure is all ours in this fleet-footed treat, based on a true story. Leonardo DiCaprio plays Frank Abagnale Jr., who began his career as a con artist as a teen in the '60s. With Tom Hanks as the workaholic FBI man who pursues him through bogus identities as a doctor and Pan Am pilot. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content and brief language.) 2 hours, 20 minutes. A-

"CHICAGO": Why was it again that Hollywood stopped making movie musicals? Who decided we shouldn't leave a theater humming that catchy tune, fighting the urge to tap dance our way across the lobby? "Chicago" is the kind of uplifting, exhilarating movie that makes you ask these questions. Vastly talented Renée Zellweger even manages to upstage diva Catherine Zeta-Jones in this tawdry tale, originally based on true-crime cases and later made into a Broadway musical. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content and dialogue, violence and thematic elements.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. A

"CITY OF GOD": Fernando Meirelles' scorching anecdotal history of violence in the slums of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, traces the decline of a neighborhood, Cidade de Deus (City of God), from a sun-baked shantytown where children while away the days in soccer games and petty thievery into a shadowy slum teeming with armed adolescent warriors. The portrait of a boy soldier enlisting in a volunteer criminal army with an astronomical mortality rate is one of the movie's many profoundly unsettling images. Adapted from a best-selling novel by Paulo Lins, who grew up in Cidade de Deus, its narrator, Rocket (Alexandre Rodrigues), is a young photographer from the same neighborhood, whose loose-jointed yarns follow the fates of a number of his childhood acquaintances. — S. Holden. (R: scenes of violence and graphic sex talk.) 2 hours, 10 minutes. A-

"BLIND SPOT: HITLER'S SECRETARY": History buffs won't want to miss this sparse new German documentary about the last days of the Nazi leader. Deceptively simple, less a film than a compassionate oral history. Traudi Junge, 81, talks candidly about her experiences as Hitler's secretary. There's no archival footage; in fact, nothing but Junge sitting in front of the camera. But she's a brisk storyteller, and the material sucks you in. At the end, we're convinced we have spent time in the company of a good person whose biggest crime was never questioning authority. — M. Pols. (PG: thematic material.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. B+

Bridge Theatre *

3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco. 415-352-0810

•*The Quiet American* (R) 2:20, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45.

Castro Theatre *

423 Castro St., San Francisco. 415-621-6120

•*The Apartment* (Not Rated) 9

•*Manhattan* (R) 7.

Clay Theatre *

2261 Filmore St., San Francisco. 415-352-0810

•*The Big Lebowski* (R).

•*The Planit* (R) 1:40, 3:30, 8.

Embarcadero Center Center Cinemas *

1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco. 415-352-0810

•*Bowling for Columbine* (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50.

•*The Hunted* (R) 12:20, 1:40, 2:40, 4:40, 5:20, 7:20, 8:20, 9:40, 10:20.

•*The Jungle Book* (2) 9:12.

•*The Planit* (R) 12:10, 3:30, 7, 10:10.

•*Tears of the Sun* (R) 1:20, 2:10, 5:10, 7:25, 8:10, 10:25.

•*Willard* (PG-13) 1:15, 3:35, 6:05, 8:30, 11.

United Artists Emery Bay *

6330 Christie Ave., Emeryville. 510-420-0107

•*Agent Cody Banks* (PG) 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15.

•*Boat Trip* (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:25, 10:05.

•*Chicago* (PG-13) 12:05, 2:45, 5:10, 8:05, 10:55.

•*How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days* (PG-13) 12:25, 3, 5:30, 8, 10:25.

•*Old School* (R) 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45.

•*Tears of the Sun* (R) 1, 4:45, 7:30, 10:20.

•*Willard* (PG-13) 12:23, 5:05, 7:35, 10:30.

United Artists Berkeley 7 *

2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-4822

•*About Schmidt* (R) 1:50, 5, 8, 10:40.

•*Boat Trip* (R) 3, 2:20, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45.

•*Bringing Down the House* (PG-13) 1, 2, 3, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 7:45, 8:30, 9:30, 10:15, 11.

•*Chicago* (PG-13) 1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20.

•*Cradle 2 the Grave* (R) 2, 4:25, 7:30, 10.

•*Frida* (R) 1:25, 4:35, 7:20, 10.

•*Gangs of New York* (R) 4:05.

•*The Hours* (PG-13) 1:45, 2:45, 7:15, 9:55.

•*How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days* (PG-13) 1:15, 2:30, 3, 5:30, 7, 9:30.

•*Old School* (R) 1, 2, 3:30, 5:30, 7, 9:30.

•*Willard* (PG-13) 1:15, 3:35, 6:05, 8:30, 11.

California Theatre *

2113 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-843-3456

•*Bowling for Columbine* (R) 6:45.

•*Bringing Down the House* (PG-13) 2, 3, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 9:35.

•*The Hunted* (R) 4:40, 7, 9:15.

•*Irreversible* (Not Rated) 4:15, 9:25.

Chabot Space & Science Center *

2113 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-843-3456

•*The Human Body* (Not Rated) 11:30, 5:30.

•*The Living Sea* (Not Rated) 3:30.

•*Mysteries of Egypt* (Not Rated) 12:30.

•*To Fly* (Not Rated) 10:30, 2:30, 4:30, 8:30.

•*Irreversible* (Not Rated) 4:15, 9:25.

Chabot Space & Science Center *

10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. 510-336-7300

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View From the Top' bottoms out

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

VIEW FROM THE TOP is a film aimed at a very select demographic — those who have at one time or another had a Barbie doll in their possession. It presents a girlie fantasy, only outdated, that only those who cherish the legendary plastic doll could possibly appreciate or understand. There have been some intention to audience members who watch Barbie on a more ironic level, but if so, that attempt has terribly awry.

Australian director Bruno Barilli's "Barbie Nova" can't decide whether he's making a camp movie about flight attendants or a drama about a girl choosing between love and career. He's got a bit of both, and it's a curious combination.

Star-winner Gwyneth Paltrow plays Donna Jensen, a small-

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "View From the Top"
■ **STARRING:** Gwyneth Paltrow, Christina Applegate, Candice Bergen, Rob Lowe, Mike Myers
■ **RATING:** PG-13 (language, sexual references)
■ **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 27 minutes
■ **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
■ **GRADE:** D-

town girl from Nevada — although her accent, when it surfaces, suggests the South — who dreams of leaving her trailer park behind and becoming an international flight attendant. She seems to want to do this primarily for the opportunity to wear fancier Royalty Airlines' uniforms.

It's a long road to the top.

Donna starts with Sierra Airlines, a dubious enterprise that caters to drunk gamblers from its base in Laughlin. While working for Sierra, Donna meets two other cutie-patooties, Christine (Christina Applegate) and Sherry (Kelly Preston), and a handsome co-pilot (Rob Lowe). Both Preston and Lowe make brief appearances, then mysteriously disappear, fortunate victims of the editing process.

Mark Ruffalo ("You Can Count on Me") has no such luck. He plays Ted, a nice guy who left law school to follow his bliss in the wild West. He and Donna meet while she's at Sierra, are attracted to each other — or so they claim, since there's no chemistry between Ruffalo and Paltrow — and are forced to part when she gets a trainee job with the much fancier Royalty Airlines. It's not giving too much away to reveal that Ted does pop up again later

in the story, apparently having found and become bored by his bliss.

A number of other usually reliable talents are wasted on this should-have-gone-straight-to-cable mess. Mike Myers plays a Royalty flight-attendant instructor with a permanently crossed eye. The actor positively begs for laughs, but the combination of Eric Wald's boneheaded script and the tastelessness of milking a disability for humor make it impossible to oblige.

Candice Bergen is Sally Weston, a motivational speaker and former Royalty flight attendant who decides, rather randomly, to mentor Donna. There's a scene where Sally takes Donna into her massive walk-in closet and drapes a vintage Royalty uniform over her protege. "That is so beautiful," Donna sighs, staring at her reflection in a green and blue suit that Queen Elizabeth might wear to cut a ribbon for a new day care center.

She's absolutely sincere; talk about suspending disbelief. The

movie, remember, is set in present-day. I don't know about you, but in the past 30 years I've noticed nothing alluring about flight attendants' uniforms. Certainly they seem practical; they are unlikely to show dirt and carry a reassuring sense of professionalism. To call them beautiful seems a stretch.

What drew a classy Oscar winner such as Paltrow to this project? There's evidence she likes comedy ("Shallow Hal," "The Anniversary Party") and is quite capable in this arena. But "View From the Top" isn't remotely funny, so we have to assume she's in it for something else. As Donna, she wears padded bras, a pink bikini and even, in one of the depressingly dull outtakes (if your outtakes aren't funny, hang it up), denim short-shorts and high heels. Barretto doesn't miss an opportunity to highlight her thigh muscles or yoga-toned tummy. So maybe she hoped to boost her sex appeal. Or maybe she's always longed to play Barbie.

Events

FROM PAGE C3

Funk Fest, March 27 With DJs Eric Riggsbee, Big Al Maheesh and Eric G. Stroke 9, 8:30, March 28

Sol Americano, Hebro, Freeway Planet, March 29

Shroomy Shroom, Len Patterson, March 30

\$3 to \$10 general unless noted. For ages 18 and older. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley 510-846-0886

CATO'S ALE HOUSE — Strange Angels, March 23

Vince Wallace Trio, March 26 Grey Prawn Trio, March 30

Free Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 3891 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-655-3349 or www.mrcato.com

DOWNTOWN — Rhonda Benin, March 21

Hal Stein Quartet, March 22

Mimi Fox, March 25

Jules Brouard and Ned Boynton, March 26

Keni El Lebrijano Flamenco Guitar,

See EVENTS, Page C8

Reviews

PAGE C4

R: intense violence, sexuality, and language.) 2 hours, 45 minutes.

LOVES ME, HE LOVES ME NOT

... Audrey Tatou plays Anna, a young woman deeply in love with Luc (Samuel Le Bihan), a dog of about 30. Never mind that he's married or that his wife is gone; he's sure to leave her, in any case. Yet that very evening Anna stands her up, and, worse than to show up at the airport, they are to take off for a two-day road trip. Not surprisingly, Anna starts unravelling at an ever-increasing pace. But just as she reaches the depths of her depression, the film abruptly rewinds right back to its opening shot to once again tell its story from Loc's point of view. The film evolves into a psychological suspense that's creepiness leavened by the slightest touch of pitch-dark — K. Thomas. (NR: violence, language.) 1 hour, 32 minutes.

OURS: Director Stephen Herek is based on the Pulitzer-winning tribute to Virginia Woolf, magnifies her 1941 suicide and fiction resonates in the lives of women in the future. Julianne Moore and Meryl Streep are great, the Kidman is the show-stopper. She's been outifted in a new look; even her blue eyes are as bright as the sunburst in her mania. The actress is both as a genius at the craft, and as a woman who wants to escape the pain of her family. — M. Polis. (PG-13: dramatic elements, some disturbing, brief language.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. B+

"THE LION KING," IMAX: The Disney animated classic comes to the very big screen, but since everybody's seen it, will it go still? The colors are brighter than ever, and the soundtrack is a knockout, especially the orchestral arrangements of Elton John compositions. — R. Butler. (G) 1 hour, 30 minutes. B

"THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS": The second installment of director Peter Jackson's big-screen adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's great trilogy is as intoxicating as last year's "Fellowship." Jackson expertly weaves together three distinct journeys, taking as his centerpiece a scene to which Tolkien devoted only a dozen or so pages — the battle to defend Helm's Deep. It's a fantastic choice, one of the most thrilling battle scenes ever filmed. The special effects, most notably the computer-generated creature Gollum (voice and movements by Andy Serkis) are nifty, with the unfortunate exception of the Ents, who look a bit too much like Gumbys. — M. Polis. (PG-13: epic battle sequences and scary images.) 2 hours, 59 minutes. A-

"THE JUNGLE BOOK 2": This sequel to Disney's 1967 animated treatment of the Rudyard Kipling tale has the lush Indian jungle looking a little brighter, and the leap into computer animation allows for some terrific images. Our hero, Mowgli (voiced by Haley Joel Osment), is living in the man village. He has plenty of friends, but longs for his carefree jungle days. Baloo (John Goodman), his beloved bear, feels the same and pays Mowgli a visit. Mowgli's real dilemma is the tug between past and present. "The Jungle Book 2" is aimed at young kids, but, as always, the Disney folks put in some jokes aimed at their parents. — C. Dolen. (G) 1 hour, 15 minutes. B+

"LAUREL CANYON": Square med-school student Sam (Christian Bale) is forced to move into his ultra-cool record-producer mom's (Frances McDormand) fabulous house in the hills above L.A. Mom was supposed to vacate, but instead she's cutting an al bum, romping with her hot young rock-star boyfriend (Alessandro Nivola) and sending enticing vibes toward Sam's allegedly uptight fiance (Kate Beckinsale). If you relish Vandy Fair articles in which celebrity interviews are conducted at L.A.'s hip Chateau Marmont, then writer/director Lisa Cholodenko's vacuous, elitist movie may please you. It, too, implies

that your life would be more glorious if you were poolside, wearing Jean Paul Gaultier and enjoying a ciggie with your wheat-grass shake. — M. Polis. (R: sexuality, language and drug use.) 1 hour, 41 minutes. C-

"THE LIFE OF DAVID GALE": Director Alan Parker has overwhelmed this mystery thriller with a sermon about the death penalty that is obvious and smug. Kevin Spacey is the title character, a hotheaded Texas philosophy professor and outspoken death penalty abolitionist on death row for murdering a fellow activist. He's at the end of his appeals, days from execution, when he decides to tell his story to magazine writer Bitsey Bloom (Kate Winslet). The death penalty is an issue that deserves to be on the front burner of the national debate, but "David Gale" is neither the proper forum nor the winning argument its makers suppose it to be. — R. Moore. (R: violent images, nudity, language and sexuality.) 2 hours, 10 minutes. C-

"IRREVERIBLE": Writer-director Gaspar Noe's story of rape and revenge, told a la "Memento," is by far the best of the recent genre of French boundary-pushing films. Once you're past those scenes of sexual violence and come to know the context and characters involved, you'll find something both deeply humanist and emotionally complex. The first half of the movie, or the second half of the story, reeks of sensationalism, and one would be hard-pressed to defend Noe for his excesses. Still, it's amazing how pleasant the pre-crimes section of the movie is to watch. Vincent Cassel and Monica Bellucci bring a casual intimacy to their roles. The movie begins with a nightmare ending and ends with a dreamlike beginning for a couple who, but for one banal, irreversible moment, had their whole lives ahead of them. — J. Mathews. (NR: graphic violence, language, explicit sexuality.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. C+

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"REMEMBER 'RABBIT LINE?': It may have been some time since you've seen this powerful play on stage or perhaps the 1939 movie with Burgess Meredith and Lon Chaney Jr. But a couple of lines of dialogue should bring it into focus, clear and wincing:

"Will there be rabbits, George?"

"Yeah, Lenny. There'll be rabbits."

You probably know by now the speakers are two Depression-era drifters in John Steinbeck's classic novel "Of Mice and Men."

Lenny is a man-child, an untutored little boy in the body of a dangerously strong man. George is his friend, solid and cunning, who does the thinking for both of them. Their bond and loyalty is about all they have going for them in their harsh and hopeless world.

All that is, except the near-hopeless dream of someday owning their own place. Now, they have landed jobs as ranch hands to try and save enough

money to buy the vision.

Lenny loves to pet soft, furry things. George calms Lenny's childish distractions by promising to let him tend the rabbits.

Then the ranch boss' soft,

sensuous and promiscuous

wife appears on the scene and the men's lives are changed forever.

"Of Mice and Men," featur-

ing Karl Erickson as George and Bob Leach as Lenny in this Marin Classic Theatre production, opens April 4, in The Playhouse, 27 Kensington

Road, San Anselmo. Artie Gilbert directs. It plays at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, through April 19. Tickets range from \$10 to \$18, varying with days of performance and discounts. Call 415-892-8551 or visit www.MCTtheatre.com.

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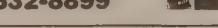
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PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE
Date of Filing
February 20, 2003
Application (date):
To Whom It May Concern: (The name of the applicant(s) is/are:
KISHORE KAMAL
LAL
MAYA
SHARMA MANISH
SINGH SANJEEV)

The above listed are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control for the change of alcoholic beverages at:
2160 UNIVERSITY AVE.
BERKELEY, CA 94704
For the following type of License: 47-06-G
OAKLAND District Office
1515 Clay Street
Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612
(415) 865-4970
Legal Berkley Voice
#0922
Publish (March 21, 2003)

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF CATHERINE L. HAYDEN
DATE: HAYDEN
CASE NUMBER:

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the estate of CATHERINE L. HAYDEN A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed in the Superior Court of California, Alameda County.

The PETITION FOR PROBATE was filed on March 10, 2003. ROBERT HAYDEN may be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils to be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

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Legal Notice

1486 Solano Ave
Albany, CA 94706
415-663-8851
Legal Berkley Voice
#0922
Publish (March 21, 2003)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MARY M. BEYER

MARY M. BEYER
aka
MARY M. BEYER
CASE NUMBER:

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the estate of MARY M. BEYER, deceased.

The PETITION for probate has been filed in the Superior Court of California, Alameda County.

The PETITION requests the appointment of a personal representative to administer the estate of MARY M. BEYER.

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Legal Notice

Albany, CA 94706
This business is conducted by an individual
/s/ Carolyn A. Estrella

The registrant commences to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 27, 2003.

The registrant is hereby registered by the County Clerk of Contra Costa County.

FILE NO. 2003-1337
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The name of the business is
1) ANTOUCH COURIER 2) RIVERVIEW COURIER

REGISTRATION NUMBER:

208 Dawson

City: Pittsburgh, CA

State: PA

Zip: 15222

Country: United States

Telephone: (412) 261-1200

Fax: (412) 261-1200

E-mail: antouchcourier@msn.com

Web Address: www.riverviewcourier.com

Business Address:

1000 15th Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Business Type:

Delivery Services

Business Description:

Delivery Services

Business Status:

Active

Business Status:</p



Bali-wood

GAMELAN SEKAR JAYA, the East Bay-based 50-member ensemble that performs Indonesian dance and music, returns to the stage tonight and Saturday to perform "Kawit Legong: Prince Karna's Dream." The ensemble will be presented by Bali's National Academy of the Arts in telling the story of the sacred legong dance, or "dance of the celestial realm." Gamelan Sekar Jaya performs 7 tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m. at Hertz Hall, Bancroft Way at Telegraph Avenue, UC Berkeley. Tickets are \$18-\$30. Contact 510-642-9988, gamelan.berkeley.edu.

events

PAGE C5

Ken French, March 28. www.kf.com

Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. \$10 or www.downstage.com

JEWISH MUSIC FESTIVAL — March 22 through March 29

Ken French, March 29. www.kf.com

Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. \$10 or www.downstage.com

STAR PLOUGH PUB — She Mob, Ramona the Pest, Ultralash, March 21.

\$6. www.starplough.com

Extreme Elvis, 86, Carrie Bradley, March 22. \$6.

Spoke, The Welcome Matt, Liz Anah Band, March 27. \$4.

Tempest, Brazen Hussey, March 28. 9:30 p.m. \$10.

Rosin Coven, Red Pocket, People's Bazaar, March 29. \$9.

For ages 21 and over unless otherwise noted. Sunday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. \$10-\$20.

YOSHIS' — Charles Lloyd Quartet featuring Geri Allen, through March 23. Tuesday through Thursday, 8 p.m.; \$20 and 10 p.m.; Friday, 8 p.m.; \$24 and 10 p.m.; Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., \$24; Sunday, 2 p.m., \$20 general.

Mark Levine and The Latin Tinge, March 24. \$10.

Toots Thielemans and Kenny Werner, March 25 through March 30. With Oscar Castro-Neves and Arto Moreira. \$10 to \$24.

Sunday Children's Matinee: \$18 general, \$10 adult with one child; \$5 children. Shows are Monday through Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland. 510-238-9200 or www.yoshis.com or www.tickets.com.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

AMERICAN BACH SOLOISTS —

"Bach: Cantatas and Concertos," March 29, 8 p.m. An exploration of the solo cantatas of J.S. Bach. Featuring Ann Monoyios, soprano; Amy Guity, flute; and Debra Nagy, oboe.

\$18 to \$40. First Congregational Church, Dana and Durant Streets, Berkeley. 415-621-7900 or www.americancbach.org

CAL PERFORMANCES — "Kawit Legong: Prince Karna's Dream,"

March 21 through March 22, 8 p.m.

Performed by Gamelan Sekar Jaya, a Bay area-based, 50 member-troupe of musicians and dancers who specialize in the music and dance of Bali, Indonesia. They will perform alongside STSI Denpasar, Bali's National Academy of Arts. \$18 to \$30. In Zellerbach Hall

"Sightlines," March 21 through March 22, 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Pre-performance talk Gamelan Sekar Jaya director Wayne Vitale and other artists. Free to ticketholders.

Michelle D'Young, mezzo-soprano, March 30, 3 p.m. With pianist Kevin Murphy, a performance of works by Duparc, Mahler, Strauss, Respighi and Berg. \$48. In Hertz Hall.

UC Bancroft Way and Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-642-3988 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu

CHANTICLEER — "My Beloved Spouse: Music of Purcell and Lawes," March 23, 7 p.m. Conductor and harpsichordist Skip Semper and his ensemble perform a program of works by Henry Purcell and William Lawes, two of the greatest composers of the English Baroque movement.

\$25 to \$37 general; \$22 to \$34 seniors and students. First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. 415-392-4400 or 800-407-1400 or

800-407-1400 or www.chanticleer.org

CULTURAL CENTER —

"Sesame Celebration, March 20. A celebration of music and dance, featuring original radio music by Bay area women performers, singers and teatro instrumentales. Featuring Cha Cha Boom, Groove 2 Soul, \$10 to \$12 general admission.

March 20, 3:30 p.m. In the

Community Room, 1000 16th Street, San Francisco. 415-673-2044 or www.ccctr.org

OPEN YOUR VOICE —

"Singing Workshops" — March 24. At each workshop

of Kitka singers will teach

new vocal techniques designed

as some favorite tunes from

the repertoire. Reservations suggested. Individual workshops, \$25; dual workshops, \$40. To register, call 937-9200 or www.kitka.org

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Friday Auto Plus

cars.com

supplement to The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, March 21, 2003

Section D

MARY JACKSON
Down the Road

hybrid
s get more
es per gallon

MOTOR MATTERS

next time you prepare to
lease a new car, you may
be thinking about a dif-
ference of vehicle: The new hy-
brids that run on two power

they consider them for the
reasons other people are buying
them: they save money on gas
when they get so many miles to
the gallon. They pollute far less than
other vehicles and they're often

you like them be-
cause they look cool, in kind of a
way.

It's a short course on how
current hybrid cars work. A

hybrid car's engine and an electric
motor together to power the car,
computer deciding whether
to use the gas engine, the electric
motor both.

example, when you're coast-
ing, the engine turns off and
the motor charges the bat-

teries.

the other extreme — when
pressing the accelerator to
the floor — both the engine and the
motor work to give the ve-
hicle power it needs. It's pretty

technology.

Is it time for you to buy
alternative vehicles? Maybe
you no — depending on

needs.

Like a soccer mom who
drives her kids, sporting
overloaded backpacks,

WOMEN, Page D4



MOTOR MATTERS

NISSAN MAKES sixth generation Maxima attractive for 2004 with sporty lines, luxurious appearance, sophisticated technology and quality. It also has the option of four or five seats and of Skyview Roofs composed of two individual open roofs for those seated in the front or back.

Nissan creates an upscale sporty sedan in 2004 Maxima

MOTOR MATTERS

If you're unable to make up your mind what type of vehicle you want, give consideration to the 2004 Nissan Maxima. This sedan has numerous characteristics.

The Maxima is an attractive vehicle with sporty lines and a luxurious appearance. It is technologically sophisticated and powerful, and exudes a quality far above the norm.

And these impressions are not deceptive. Merely get behind the wheel, and you'll soon agree with this analysis.

First, a little background on the Maxima. This is Nissan's top-of-the-line vehicle and has been since it was introduced in 1980.

The 2004 model is the sixth-generation and is loaded with desirable improvements.

At first glance, the most obvious is its muscular appearance, with sharp, chiseled lines. Although it has a sporty style, especially with the way the C-pillar makes it look like a coupe, it retains the element of sophistication.

This car is not exactly an import as it is now being assembled in

TOM KEANE

Kane on Wheels

joy the sports-car feeling

To build a car with two "holes in the roof" requires extra rigid body strength. This rigid body allows the construction of a suspension that can handle sharp turns with complete agility, similar to what is expected of a true sports car.

In a sense, the Maxima can be configured as a sports car depending upon the choice of the SE or SL models.

Another option is the choice of four or five seats. The four-seater allows passengers in the rear to en-

joy the sports-car feeling
However, the SL is only available with 17-inch wheels while the SE has 18-inch wheels as an option and a sports-tuned suspension.

Both cars are powered by a 3.5-liter, V6 engine producing 265 horsepower — not the fastest car in the world but certainly has enough get-up-and-go acceleration to enjoy any open, winding road.

As for fuel economy: 20 miles per gallon city and 27 mpg highway.

See KEANE, Page D2

CONNELL KIA MAKE EVERY MILE COUNT.

10 YEAR 100,000 MILE WARRANTY PROGRAM

NEW 2002 KIA RIO SEDAN
\$139 MO.
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Sale Price \$6995
5.9% APR for 72 months
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With \$0 Cash Down!
Sale Price \$12200
5.9% APR for 72 months
with approval. 1 @ this price #193863

Wow! An SUV at this Price?
New 2002 KIA SPORTAGE
\$298 MO.
With \$0 Cash Down!
Sale Price \$18723
5.9% APR for 72 months
with approval. 1 @ this price #316867

CONNELL KIA

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3/4 PT Cruisers, Minivans, Grand Cherokees & Liberty.**
2.9% APR UP TO 72 Months on Grand Cherokee on credit approval

72 month financing on Grand Cherokee 2003 models only. \$14.29 per \$1000 borrowed.

2002 CHRYSLER 300M

Leased! "Special Edition" Will Not Last!

LEASE \$248 /mo + tax

\$8000 OFF MSRP

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NEW 2003 JEEP LIBERTY

LEASE \$248 /mo + tax

On credit approval 60-mo lease at \$248/mo + tax. \$245 mo. due at lease inception. \$1000 cash or trade equity due thereafter. \$0 refundable security deposit.

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NEW 2002 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY LXI

Auto, Lthr, V6, Side Air Bags, P. Lift Gate, AM/FM Cass/CD & much more!

TAKE \$10,000 OFF MSRP

1 At this price #692068

NEW 2003 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE

LEASE \$269 /mo + tax

On credit approval 60-mo lease at \$269/mo + tax. \$3000 Factory Rebate total due at lease inception. \$2000 cash or trade equity due thereafter. \$0 refundable security deposit.

1 At this payment #577877

TAKE \$10,000 OFF MSRP

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One-of-a-kind 45-year love affair with a 1956 Bel Air

MOTOR MATTERS

It was about 45 years ago when a preacher showed up in Ed Johnson's home town driving a snazzy red-and-white 1956 Chevrolet Bel Air two-door hardtop. The preacher was welcomed by the congregation, but the flashy car with the chrome-plated stylized jet airplane engine hood ornament had to go.

That's when Johnson saw his opportunity. In 1957, the young man purchased the new preacher's one-year-old Chevrolet. "I loved that car," Johnson said.

He must have been very fond of it because during the next seven years he drove the car almost 300,000 miles. During that era it was rare for any automobile to eclipse the 100,000-mile mark.

"The transmission was about ready to leave me," Johnson recalls, "so I sold it in 1964."

Twenty years passed before Johnson acknowledged to himself that he missed his old, 1956 Chevrolet Bel Air and began looking for a replacement. He found a few 1956 Chevrolets that had been hot-rodded and some that had been customized and more than a few that were mostly rusted away. After a year or so of fruitless searching, he gave up.

Naturally, that's when he found what he had been after — virtually in his own back yard. Johnson bought the Chevrolet in November 1986. Except for being green and white, the automobile was identical

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

to the car he had owned back in the 1950s.

When new, the Chevrolet had a base price of \$2,176. Once Johnson had his new/old Chevrolet home, he set about returning it to like-new condition.

He wanted a car with no plastic filler in the body. Consequently, all the plastic filler that was there already was removed, along with any rusted metal. Healthy, rust-free steel was put in place. "I welded it myself," Johnson recalls.

While he was returning the shapely body of the two-door hardtop Chevrolet to showroom condition on its 115-inch wheelbase, the 265-cubic-inch V8 engine with a dual-exhaust system was rebuilt.

The Powerglide transmission was serviced and found to be in good condition. Johnson had the car repainted in the same two-tone color scheme as his original 1956 Chevrolet with a white top over a matador-red body. The appropriate parts of the interior — the dashboard and window frames — were painted red to match the exterior color.

In 1956, the 3,222-pound Chevrolet left the factory equipped with the extra-cost options of an AM radio, power steering, power brakes, a heater and full wheel covers.

Behind the wraparound windshield, a design element that was



MORE THAN 20 years pass before owner finds another Chevy Bel Air to match the one he sold in 1964 with almost 300,000 miles.

all the rage in the late 1950s, was a full-size, shoulder-wide, two-spoke steering wheel.

Nestled prominently in the dashboard is the 120-mph speedometer. With the renowned Chevrolet V8 engine equipped with a power pack, reaching the top indicated speed is a very real possibility.

The interior of the car has un-

dergone a transformation. The car pet is now red. Typical of many General Motors cars in 1956, the headliner consists of a white perforated material.

The seats and door panels match the color of the car, as does the steering wheel. The wheel has a flashy, 360-degree chrome horn ring.

With the Powerglide transmis-

sion functioning properly, Johnson finally realized his goal in September 1995 when he drove his fully restored Chevrolet on its 6.70x15-inch white sidewall tires on its maiden tour. It's always a treat to pull into a gasoline station and watch the attendant search for the gas cap, which is cleverly hidden behind the left taillight, he said.

A quick look at the above the red bellows right assembly is being composed the gasoline keeps his Chevrolet Sport close at hand. After copies of the most manufactured, that drove of a kind

Race car builder Carroll Shelby doing 80 in fast lane

MOTOR MATTERS

Legendary racer and sports car builder Carroll Shelby turned 80 earlier this year.

This seems like an appropriate milestone to look at his illustrious career in the rearview mirror, even though he shows little sign of slowing down.

Shelby turned his racing hobby into a business after service as a pilot in World War II and subsequent failed attempts at other businesses, including a chicken farm at which the chickens died.

He had caught the eye of team manager John Wyer and landed a spot on the mid-1950s Aston Martin racing team.

In 1958, teamed with Roy Salvadori, Shelby won the famed LeMans 24 Hours for Aston Martin.

A year later, a heart ailment forced him to give up driving.

He then turned to building cars, creating one of the fastest road cars ever, the Shelby Cobra, and later Shelby Mustangs and Cobra Daytona Coupes, which captured the World Manufacturer's Championship in 1965.

A Shelby-led group of Ford GT40s took two consecutive victories at LeMans in 1966 and 1967.

In the early 1980s, Chrysler Chairman Lee Iacocca commissioned Shelby to create a series of Chrysler-Dodge high-performance vehicles, including the prototype for what became the Dodge Viper.

Later, Shelby manufactured his CSX4000 series Cobra S/C Roadsters and Shelby Series I exotic sports car.

Today, Shelby American is still building performance cars, including the CSX7000 series Cobras.

"The highlights (of my career) absolutely were winning LeMans as a driver and then going back and building the Cobras that won the world championship — the Ford GT



THE SHELBY 289 COBRA Street Car is latest offering from legendary automotive manufacturer Carroll Shelby. Equipped with a 345-horsepower Ford Motorsports GT40 302 V8, the new Shelby 289 goes from 0 to 60 in about 4.6 seconds. It is configured for either a four- or five-speed gearbox. For more information go to www.shelbyamerican.com.

SHELBY AMERICAN INC.

"The highlights (of my career) absolutely were winning LeMans as a driver and then going back and building the Cobras that won the world championship — the Ford GT

1966 and 1967.

MICHELLE KREBS

She's Freewheeling

LeMans in 1966 and 1967," Shelby told me in our interview.

"It's been interesting to build automobiles," he added. "But it is very difficult for small companies because of all the federal regulations.

By the time you get through the bureaucracy, you'll have a 3-foot-long gray beard. It's no place for a little company alone. You have to be associated with a big company."

Shelby is thrilled to see au-

tomakers focusing on performance once again, as Ford is with the upcoming introduction of a modern Version of the Shelby's GT.

"All big companies are finally realizing you don't build cars just for money. You have to create an image for your company," he noted.

"Companies listened to the bean counters on why racing and performance were a waste of money. Now we're seeing budgets for performance divisions again."

Shelby thinks the phenomenon of young people modifying their small Japanese imports, as glamorized in the now cult-film "The Fast and the Furious," is among the

most interesting trends occurring today.

It reminds him of his own hot rod days in the 1950s when people set up drag strips around the country.

He's been known to be among the 100,000 people on a Friday night attending races of these so-called "pocket rockets" at a track in Palmdale not far from his home.

"These amazingly brilliant kids who understand electronics are doing things as we did, but they're taking a Honda Civic and running 900 horsepower and 175 mph through a front-wheel drive — which they said couldn't be done — to make these \$30,000 pocket rock-

ets."

"It is amazing. It's the fastest growing cottage industry as far as performance."

While Shelby is befuddled by people paying as much as \$5 million at auctions for his Daytona coupes and \$390,000 for Mustangs he built, he looks to the future.

He's got a new car in the prototype and testing phase, being built by his Las Vegas company. He won't reveal many details until it is unveiled at the 2004 North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

He also remains involved with Goodyear racing tires.

And he's still developing an en-

Keane

FROM PAGE 1

The SL is equipped with a four-speed automatic transmission while the SE has a five-speed automatic with a manual shift. Both have a gated shifter.

My preference is the more expensive SL model that costs \$28,900 compared to the \$26,950 for the SE model. This SL also includes as standard equipment a 329-watt

Bose audio system with AM/FM cassette, 32 CD-disc player and eight speakers.

This system has a speed-sensitive volume control. Another upscale touch is a satellite radio system.

Other features depict more of the upscale components. Each model comes with a driver memory system that allows the driver's seat position, steering wheel and outside mirrors to be programmed.

It also includes driver's seat lumbar support, heated steering wheels and all the nice treatment one expects of a top-of-the-

line four-door sedan.

For those who really want to be pampered — at an additional cost — there is a DVD navigational system with 7-inch color display screen, rear center console, auto up/down windows, heated rear seat, 12V power point outlets. For added safety, Vehicle Dynamic Control with traction control is also available as an option.

Add it all up, and the all-new Maxima has everything, ideal for anyone who wants it all but is not sure of what.

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Body Shop Hours

Women

FROM PAGE D1

and groceries at the same time, these cars won't work for you.

Two of the hybrids available now — the Toyota Prius and the Honda Insight — are compacts, both have front-wheel drive and four-cylinder engines.

The Prius, which has an automatic transmission, is a four-door sedan that holds four people. The Insight, a hatchback available only in a manual transmission, holds two people. The cars are roomier than you might expect, but they still aren't big enough for many families.

If you're someone who wants to reduce dependence on oil or cut down on how much you poison the planet every time you drive your car, these vehicles are a good choice because they use less gas and, therefore, produce less toxic emissions.

According to Sierra magazine, emissions from U.S. cars are the largest single contributor to the gases that cause global warming. These hybrids contribute much less.

The Prius gets 45 miles per gallon in city driving (52 on the highway), while the smaller Insight gets 61 in the city (70 on the highway).

Both cars cost approximately \$20,000. The cost of annual maintenance is about the same as that of a conventional car.

A potentially expensive problem is having to replace the hybrid's special batteries. If that happens after the warranty runs out, it could cost you thousands of dollars.

(The warranties are as follows: For the Prius, it's eight

years/100,000 miles for the batteries and hybrid systems; three years/36,000 miles for the rest of the car. On the Insight, it's eight years/80,000 miles for the batteries and most of the powertrain; three years/36,000 miles for the rest of the car.)

And when it comes to vehicle upkeep, you'll have to take your hybrid car back to a dealer for recommended maintenance and probably for repairs, too. Your trusty mechanic might not have a clue what to do with these new vehicles.

Resale value remains an unknown.

Driving a Prius or Insight is a much quieter experience, it's that's important to you. When I first drove one of the early hybrids, I couldn't help but think how weird it was not to hear the sound of the starter when turning the key. In addition the engine shuts down when the car comes to a stop.

I found the quiet extremely appealing, once I stopped panicking, thinking the engine had stalled. When I got back into my gasoline-driven sedan, the normal noise seemed annoying.

There's also the business of refueling. Personally, I hate having to go to gas stations, as it's just one more burden on my busy days. At anywhere from 45 to 70 mpg, you'll be passing gas stations, not pulling in to them.

And maybe the hybrid cars are for you if you like to be on the cutting edge and you enjoy new technology. When you're driving a Prius or Insight, you'll get to see when the system is recharging itself — what fun! — and the instrumentation is remarkable.

They're not extremely pow-

erful vehicles, but during my test-drive I felt perfectly comfortable driving around Los Angeles, even when merging into fast moving freeway traffic.

In slowing down a little, you'll be able to enjoy the looks you're getting from fellow drivers who appreciate the fact that you're helping to keep the earth inhabitable for their kids and grandkids.

Mary Jackson is the author of *Car Smarts*, a layperson's guide to cars (Avalon Travel Publications, 1999). Her Web site: www.womenatthewheel.com



Forum at Towe Auto Museum celebrates Ford's centennial

TOWE AUTO MUSEUM

SACRAMENTO — The Towe Auto Museum is proud to announce a Ford Centennial Forum; a seminar on the Ford Motor Company and Henry Ford, a man bigger than life who pioneered the development of the car industry.

This seminar, on March 29, will provide an in-depth look at Henry Ford as the man who taught the manufacturing age how to build vehicles on an assembly line; whose friends were presidents and entrepreneurs shaping the world, and who built a giant auto company that bears his name and is still run by succeeding generations of his family.

The forum is a full day of lectures, slide presentations and a book signing all highlighting the Ford Motor Company.

The fascinating story behind Henry Ford who twice failed before he founded the Ford Motor Company at age 39, is being offered from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. in honor of the company's Centennial — 100 years of active production of Ford vehicles.

Featured lecturer Mike Skinner, a Dearborn, Mich. native, will present five lectures/slides shows throughout the day on "Ford — The Man and the Company."

Skinner is a member of the Henry Ford Estate Advisory Board, Dearborn Historical Society Board member and past president, a Grosse Pointe Historical Society Board of Trustees member and past president, a renowned Ford historian and current president of the Henry Ford Heritage Association in Detroit, Mich.

Another guest lecturer will be Henry Dominguez, from the San Francisco Bay Area, an author of the Ford Motor Company with a newly released book on Edsel Ford.

Dominguez will give a lecture on Edsel's impact at the Ford Motor Company despite the explosive relationship between father and son.

The forum will also include our own museum's experts on Ford history.

The day of activities will start with presentations from the Towe Auto Museum's docent course on the Model A Fords, the Ford Model B and the Early Ford V8s by docent class instructors, Bill Millard, Dave Martin and Milt Webb at 9 a.m., running until lunch which will be served at noon.

The afternoon will begin with Skinner's talk about Ford's first automobile factory, the birthplace of the Model T — The Piquette Plant, followed by some of Ford's non-manufacturing activity — the Ford hydro mills projects and the Ford homes historic district story.

Dominguez will provide the latest information about Henry's son, Edsel, and his influential role at Ford despite Henry's volatile attitude toward his son. Skinner will close the afternoon session with a fantastic show about the friendship of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison — "A Friendship of Giants."

Following a no-host reception and catered dinner, Skinner will present a special lecture and slide show titled "One Hundred Years of Ford — A Historical Perspective of Henry Ford and the Ford Motor Company".

The cost for this full day of fascinating Ford history will be \$50, which includes lunch and dinner. Pre-registration is required and space is limited.

An option for the seminars without meals is available at a cost of \$30 with advanced registration. At the door the forum will cost \$40 without meals.

Come to the Towe Auto Museum on March 29 for a look into the life of Henry Ford, one of America's pioneering industrialists and one of the world's richest men, to learn what effect he had on our lives.

This is the ultimate Ford history lesson for all car enthusiasts.

The forum will be held in the Towe Auto Museum at 2200 Front St., Sacramento, just a block off Broadway. Call the museum at 916-442-6802 for registration form and details.

Ford exhibit

To celebrate the achievements of the Ford Motor Company through its first 100 years, the Towe Auto Museum also is presenting a special "Ford Century" exhibit.

Sponsored by Suburban Ford, the display opens March 29 and continues through July 31.

The exhibit tells the fascinating story of Ford, who failed twice before starting the Ford Motor Company in 1903 at the age of 39. Each decade is showcased with cars and history of the period.

Focus of the exhibit is the major developments of Ford Motor Company and their national and global impacts on our society.

This is perhaps best illustrated by a nose-to-nose display featuring a red 1903 Model A and a red 2003 Thunderbird on loan from Suburban Ford.

The museum at 2200 Front St. is located just south of Old Sacramento and a block off Broadway.

Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$3 for high school age, \$2 for grade schoolers and free for children 5 and younger.

Regular museum hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

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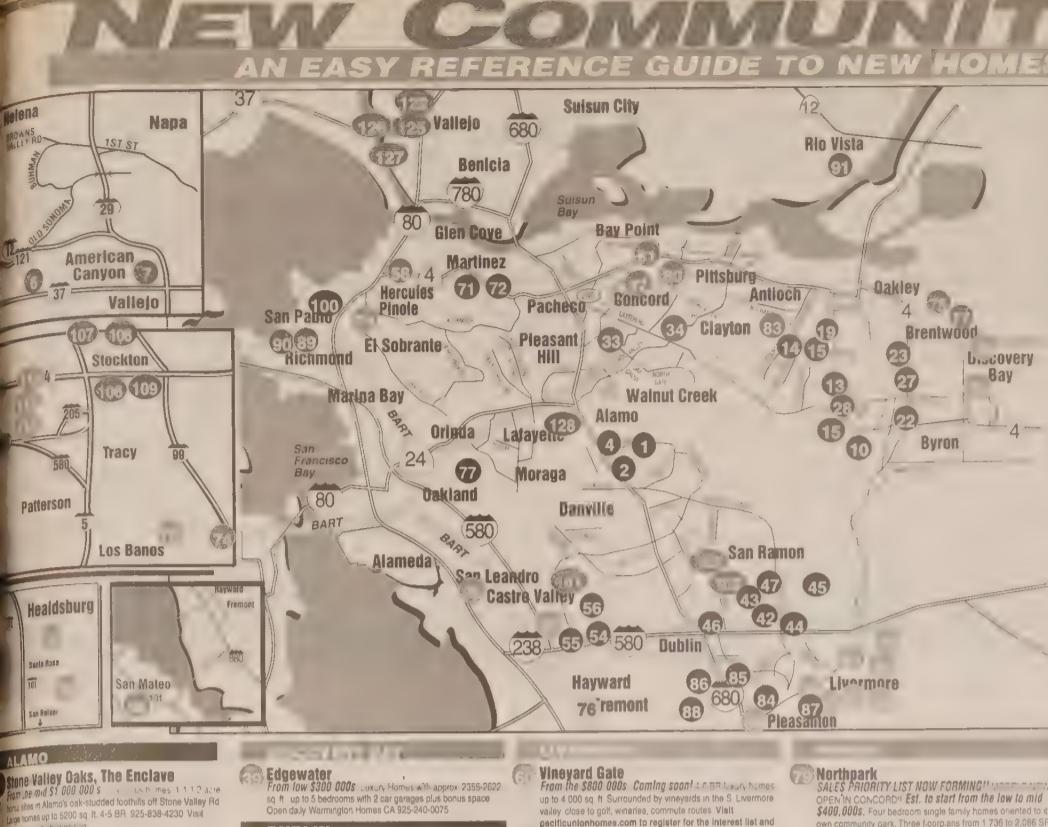
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Who is your favorite team?

SPORTS

Friday, February 21, 2003

Section C

J.V.

Alameda triples its pleasure

■ Hornets drill nine 3-pointers to outlast El Cerrito in an ACCAL matchup

By Scott Strain

Live by the "3" or die by the "3" — and Alameda lived. The Hornets (7-4) did it in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League's first division boys' basketball season, winning its sophomore game against Calandri and winning to outlast El Cerrito 71-70 on Saturday.

The loss knocked the Gauchos (17-6, 8-2) one-and-a-half games behind the Hornets in the ACCAL. Alameda has three league games left, El Cerrito two. The Gauchos still have to play Berkeley.

Alameda was coming off an

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

exhilarating 81-58 loss to Berkeley on Tuesday and came out a bit ragged against El Cerrito, which it had defeated 67-55 on El Cerrito Jan. 17. The Gauchos, on the other hand, had thrashed the Hornets (60-37) Tuesday, shuttling out the Jets 18-0 in the first quarter.

"Personally, I wanted it more because we lost to Berkeley," Calandri said. "I thought we were just as good as Berkeley, so I took that down on them, though."

Calandri had a banner night in the first half, hitting four 3-pointers in the first half, the first three of which came in the first eight of her 10 points in the first half, including two 3-pointers.

The game swung permanently from El Cerrito to the first few moments of the third quarter.

Then Nicole Catania stole the ball from Analiese McGrew underneath the Alameda basket and scored for 41-37. The Gauchos turned the ball over immediately after that and Calandri hit another 3-pointer for 44-37. El Cerrito called timeout with 7:54 left in the period and Calandri had turned the ball over three times. She never got back into it. Alameda extended the lead to 60-49 with eight seconds left in the third quarter and the Gauchos, though inside game trapping were forced to go to the perimeter to get back into the game.

"I thought it was our hustle on defense," Calandri said about the effort against El Cerrito. "Our defense wasn't there against Berkeley. I thought we got back against Berkeley, we didn't do

the same thing. The third quarter was ball movement, the Gauchos

simply didn't get around the perimeter fast enough to challenge her. When she got the ball she was open. She had the time to plant, set and shoot."

It was a bad job of coaching.

El Cerrito coach Ron Williams

said: "That's it. I'm serious. Our

substitution patterns were wrong

and didn't work. The first few

minutes of the third quarter did

n't help either."

And when Calandri caught

it, she had more than enough

help. Catania fed six of her

points in the third quarter and

Christina Persicone had enough

of her points in the second half

to give the two teams battle 70-69.

Calandri finished with 29

points to lead all scorers. Mar-

garette Green had 23 points to lead

El Cerrito and Jordan Mc-

Cormick had 14.



BSAL NOTEBOOK

Canceled games hurt Salesian

By Scott Strain

The Salesian High School boys' soccer team had two Bay Area Athletic League matches delayed to be rescheduled, and they may have cost them another a win, too.

Salesian lost its regular

season finale to Arroyo High

2-0 on Saturday, Feb. 15, in the

final game of the regular season.

After a two-week break, Salesian

had two more games rescheduled.

Both were rescheduled to

March 1, but the first one was

postponed because of rain.

The second one was rescheduled

to March 2, but the weather

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What are you driving?

Auto Plus

Advertising supplement to The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, August 24, 2001

Section D

Classic Classics: MGB still going strong [D3]

DAVE VAN SICKLE

Most gas-saving gadgets fall short of touted claims

When gasoline prices begin to rise, so do impulsive decisions about fuel economy. Not an uncommon response, given the widespread advertising of gas-saving devices that may duplicate, if not exceed, the fuel economy of a car's original manufacturer. The Federal Trade Commission has assumed authority to be wary of gas-guzzlers, and has issued a warning to automakers and gas-guzzlers. According to the FTC, most fuel-saving gadgets are not necessarily do-it-yourself, do-it-without-a-tool, do-it-without-a-manual, do-it-without-a-service, do-it-without-a-power source. Worse yet, some of these devices may not meet federal emissions and fuel-economy regulations, their manufacturer's claims notwithstanding.

After testing more than 1,000 gas-saving devices, the FTC has found only a few that actually do what they claim. In fact, most do not. The commission, after examining 14 different categories of gas-guzzlers, has issued a consumer warning to the auto industry that it may investigate more than 100 companies.

Most gas-saving devices that add air to the intake manifold for a leaner mixture.

■ Liquid injectors that add water to the air fuel mixture in the intake manifold.

■ Ignition modifiers, most of which replace existing ignition parts.



Acura RSX makes shifting much more enjoyable

Up to summer's heat, the 2001 Acura RSX Type-S is a great car. It's fast, it's fun, it's reliable, and it's a great value. But as the summer wears on, the car's performance begins to show its age. The transmission, for example, is a five-speed manual, which is great for shifting, but not so great for shifting quickly. The engine, on the other hand, is a 2.0-liter VTEC engine, which is great for power, but not so great for fuel efficiency. The car's handling is also a bit less than ideal, especially at higher speeds. The car's interior is also a bit dated, with plastic trim and a lack of modern conveniences like a CD player and a power sunroof. Overall, the car is a great value, but it's not as good as it used to be.

TOM KEANE

Keane on Wheels

Twisting around turns took awhile to adjust to before I became comfortable. At first, I was a bit nervous. But when I realized what the car was doing, I was converted as keenly as any other driver. Acura is a company that has a lot to offer, and the RSX is no exception.

With its five-speed manual transmission, the RSX is a great car, but the combination of the engine and shifter makes driving a bit of a challenge. The car's handling is also a bit less than ideal, especially at higher speeds.

The RSX isn't a fast, powerful car, but the combination of the engine and shifter makes driving a bit of a challenge. The car's handling is also a bit less than ideal, especially at higher speeds.

The RSX is a great car, but the combination of the engine and shifter makes driving a bit of a challenge. The car's handling is also a bit less than ideal, especially at higher speeds.

New, used or classic... every Friday in Auto Plus.

HILLS NEWSPAPERS

THE BERKELEY VOICE • THE JOURNAL • THE MONTCLARION
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me to get cooking — serve tasty, satisfying meals faster

BY MARILYN MARTER

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

PHILADELPHIA — Whether your day is spent in an office, in a car or at home mothering and doing chores, there's only so much time to get a meal on the table. Michelle Kindt of Newtown Park, nearly always cooks dinner for her husband, Joe, and one of their sons — Chris, 23, a college student at Chestnut Hill College, and Cliff, 22, a musician.

Cake mixes are also popular with these cooks. But then, many cooks these days think of using a cake mix as cooking "from scratch."

During her dietetics internship, Meagher said, she cooked several meals on Sundays for the week ahead. The former lab technician had gone back to school after the birth of her second child, and the added responsibilities demanded careful time management.

She eventually gave up cooking ahead, she said, because her family doesn't like reheated food.

For kitchen relief, the Meaghers eat out once a week, on Saturday nights. It's a family tradition. "And we get takeout usually once a week, either pizza or Chinese," Meagher said.

Meagher relies on her pressure cooker to speed up preparation of such from-scratch favorites as beef stew and bean soup.

Planning ahead and keeping a well-stocked pantry are key to serving satisfying meals. For a really quick meal, Meagher turns to linguini with clam sauce. By making the sauce as the pasta boils, an organized cook can serve the entree, a salad, and warmed garlic bread in about 20 minutes.

For the sauce, saute a chopped onion and some minced garlic in a lightly oiled skillet for 4 minutes. Add 1/2 cup dry white wine, 1/2 cup juice drained from 2 cans of minced clams, 1/2 teaspoon basil or oregano, and a pinch of cayenne pepper; bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 4 minutes. Add clams and heat for 2 minutes. Serve with hot, cooked pasta.

Not all weekend meals need to be cooked quickly. Some home cooks rely on an oven timer to start frozen or nonperishable food cooking before they get home from work.

But even without a slow cooker or self-starting appliance, you (or anyone else at home at lunchtime) can begin slow-cooking a meal by putting it in the oven at low heat by midday. Beef Stew Casserole cooks up tender and ready to serve when the family gets home five or six hours later.

Recipes for busy cooks

ITALIAN GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICHES

4 (1-inch-thick) slices Italian bread
4 slices mozzarella cheese
3 large eggs
1/2 cup low-fat milk
3/4 teaspoon Italian seasoning
1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
2/3 cup Italian-seasoned bread crumbs

Sausage Bean Soup (optional; recipe below)

1. Cut a 3-inch pocket into each slice of bread.

2. Place a slice of mozzarella in each pocket.

3. In a bowl, beat the eggs, milk,

Italian seasoning and garlic salt until blended. Soak bread in egg mixture for 2 minutes on each side.

4. In a shallow pan, coat each slice of bread in the bread crumbs.

5. Grill sandwiches on a greased hot griddle until golden brown on both sides and cheese is melted.

6. Serve with Sausage Bean Soup, if desired. Makes 4 servings.

From "The What's-for-Dinner Cookbook," by Kathleen Botta and Claire Mendonca (Cumberland House, \$16.95).

SAUSAGE BEAN SOUP

1/2 pound bulk Italian sausage
1/2 cup chopped onion

1 clove garlic, minced
1 (15-ounce) can black beans, rinsed and drained

1 (15 1/2-ounce) can butter beans, rinsed and drained

1 (14 1/2-ounce) can diced tomatoes, undrained

1 (14 1/2-ounce) can beef broth

1 tablespoons minced fresh basil

2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

1. In a large pot, cook the sausage, onion and garlic over medium heat until sausage is browned. Drain excess fat.

2. Add the beans, tomatoes, broth and basil. Cover and simmer for 10 minutes.

3. Serve sprinkled with grated cheese. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

From "The What's-for-Dinner Cookbook," by Kathleen Botta and Claire Mendonca (Cumberland House, \$16.95).

PEPERONATA

1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon extra-virgin olive oil

1 (8- to 10-ounce) sweet onion, cut into 1/4-inch slices

4 cloves garlic, thinly sliced

4 red and/or yellow bell peppers (cored, seeded and white ribs removed), cut into

1/4-inch strips

1/4 teaspoon kosher (coarse) salt

1 tablespoon tomato paste

3 tablespoons water

1/4 cup minced fresh basil and/or flat-leaf parsley

2 tablespoons toasted pine nuts or sliced, pitted black olives, such as Kalamata (see note)

Freshly ground black pepper to taste

1. Heat the oil in a large, heavy skillet over medium heat until hot but not smoking. Add the onions and garlic and cook, stirring often, until onions begin to color, about 5 minutes. Stir in the peppers and salt.

Cook, stirring, for 1 minute.

2. Cover and reduce heat to medium-low. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the peppers begin to soften, about 5 minutes. Uncover and cook, stirring occasionally, until peppers are soft, about 10 minutes.

3. Stir in the tomato paste and water. Cook until the liquid has evaporated, about 8 to 10 minutes.

4. Stir in the basil, pine nuts or olives and the black pepper. Serve warm or at room temperature. Makes 4 (1/2-cup) servings.

Adapted from *A New Way to Cook*, by Sally Schneider (Artisan, \$40).

Note: Toast pine nuts in a skillet over medium heat, shaking pan constantly, until golden brown, about 3 minutes.

Recipe may be doubled or tripled. Peperonata may be served over pasta, polenta, rice or risotto with chicken, pork, meat loaf or other entrees. Use it as a base for grilled shrimp. Layer it with ricotta and noodles in lasagna. Spread on garlic toast for bruschetta or add to chicken broth to make soup.

BEEF STEW CASSEROLE

2 pounds beef (for stew), cut into bite-size cubes

1 1/2 cups thickly sliced carrots

2 onions, coarsely chopped

4 to 6 potatoes (about 2 pounds), peeled and cubed

1 cup chopped celery

2 teaspoons salt

1 teaspoon pepper

1 (10 1/2-ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup

1 cup burgundy wine

1/2 cup water

1 dried bay leaf, crumbled fine

1. Combine the beef, carrots, onions, potatoes, celery, salt and pepper in a 4-qt. oven-safe casserole or baking dish.

2. Stir together the mushroom soup, wine, water and bay leaf. Pour over beef-vegetable mixture. Cover tightly.

3. Bake in a preheated 250-degree oven for 5 hours.

Note: This dish can be assembled in advance in 15 to 20 minutes, then put in the oven midway to be ready for dinner. It also can be held at 250 degrees about an hour past the cooking time without drying out if kept tightly covered. Makes 8 servings.

Adapted from *The Ultimate Casserole Cookbook: 175 Great One-Dish Recipes*, by Barbara C. Jones (Sterling Publishing, \$17.95 softcover).

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Tips for busy cooks

BY MARILYN MARTER

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

■ Look for recipes that do double duty or more. Peperonata, a garlicky vegetable sauce, can be incorporated into, or served with, dozens of dishes, including pasta, chicken and meat loaf.

■ Keep staple and specialty condiments and sauces on hand to add high-powered flavor and polish to simple foods.

Anchovy paste, unsalted butter, capers, chile (flakes, powder and saucers), fresh garlic, fresh ginger, mustards (honey and Dijon), dry sherry (not cooking sherry, which is salted), dark/black soy sauce (also called mushroom soy sauce), and vinegars (cider, rice and wine) are among the basics.

More exotic flavors, such as

Thai or Vietnamese fish sauce, Chinese hoisin sauce, and Asian oyster sauce are also exciting options.

■ Think stir-fry, saute, grill and broil.

■ Bite-size pieces and thin cuts (whether carrots or steak) cook faster than whole vegetables or large roasts.

Even frozen boneless chicken breasts pounded to 1/2-inch thickness cook in just 10 minutes (5 minutes per side) on a grill or in the broiler. (If thawed, cook just 4 minutes per side.)

■ Get double value for your time in the kitchen. When cooking pasta or beans or a sauce, double the recipe when possible. Refrigerate the extras and plan to use them for another meal within three days, or freeze them.

Quick and easy breakfast

NAPS

Dear Pat and Betty: I'm trying to eat breakfast regularly, but I'm not busy. Any suggestions?

A. Make a batch of muffins on Sunday night, have breakfast on hand for a week. We use Reynolds foil baking cups, but for variety, try the mini or extra large size. Place the foil cups on a cookie sheet (no muffin pan is needed since foil cups are sturdy enough to stand on their own), fill with batter, and pop them in the oven. Here's one recipe. For others, see reynoldskitchens.com.

APPLE YOGURT MUFFINS

12 Reynolds foil baking cups

Topping:

2 tablespoons flour

2 tablespoons sugar

1 tablespoons butter or margarine, softened

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Muffins:

2 cups flour

1/2 cup sugar

1 tablespoon baking powder

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1 carton (8 ounces) lowfat vanilla yogurt

1 egg

1/4 cup vegetable oil

2 tablespoons lowfat milk

3/4 cup peeled, chopped apples

1/3 cup raisins (optional)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Place Reynolds foil baking cups on a cookie sheet; set aside.

For topping: Combine topping ingredients until crumbly; set aside.

For muffins: Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and cinnamon in large bowl. Beat together yogurt, egg, oil and milk in small bowl.

Add to flour mixture; stir until dry ingredients are moistened. Gently stir in apples and raisins. Spoon batter into baking cups; filling evenly with top of baking cups.

Sprinkle topping over each muffin. Bake 23 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on cookie sheet.

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Dinner in minutes: Easy tuna noodle skillet supper

BY LINDA GASSENHEIMER

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Mom's easy family supper was a casserole made with tuna, noodles, mushrooms and sauce brings back fond memories of a warm kitchen and a happy family meal. I developed this one-pot meal to recreate these flavors, but cut down on the chopping, cutting and cooking time.

Diced or chopped frozen onion and green peppers are available in the freezer section of the supermarket. I like to use them in recipes where they won't affect the flavor and texture of the recipe. Sliced baby bella mushrooms and a good bottled pasta sauce are other time savers for this recipe.

The pasta is cooked in the skillet with the other ingredients. The best pasta for this is fresh. If using a dried pasta, increase the cooking time to 15 minutes and add 1/2 cup pasta sauce and 1/2 cup water to the recipe.

Helpful hints: Packaged shredded cheddar cheese can be used for the topping, or any type of cheese you happen to have on hand can be substituted. Any type of pasta sauce can be used. Any type of mushrooms can be used.

Countdown: Prepare ingredients. Make casserole.

Fred Task's wine suggestion: This comfort food needs a comfort wine: a soft, red shiraz.

TUNA NOODLE SKILLET SUPPER

2 teaspoons canola oil
1 cup chopped or diced frozen onion
1 cup chopped or diced frozen green pepper
1 cup pasta sauce
1 cup water
1/4 pound fresh linguine
1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
1 cup sliced baby bella mushrooms
12 ounces white meat tuna packed in water

Salt and freshly ground black pepper
2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet on medium-high heat. Add onion, green pepper, pasta sauce and water.

Bring to simmer, add pasta and cook gently 5 minutes. Add oregano and mushrooms. Add tuna and break into small pieces with a spoon. Simmer 3 minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Let sit 2 to 3 minutes and serve. Makes 2 servings.

Developed by Linda Gassenheimer for the Miami Herald.

Linda Gassenheimer's latest book is "More Low-Carb Meals" in Minutes. Readers may send her e-mail at DinnerLin@aol.com.



TUNA CASSEROLE with linguine, portobellos and

quick and stylish dish for any table.

Salmon hot from the oven, and no slaving at the sink — cooking Barcelona

BY MATT LEE AND TED LEE

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — "Barcelona is like Paris, but with Latin flavor," Bobby Flay said as he peeled a potato in the kitchen of his Cheesefox loft. Flay had just returned from a week's vacation in Barcelona, the city that inspired him in 1993 to open Bolo, the Spanish restaurant in Manhattan where he is also the executive chef.

The only dark spot in the trip, Flay said as he sliced the potato into quarter-inch rounds, was the confiscation of a cured ham in his luggage upon his return. He said he was certain, from what the customs agent had said — "It'll be easier for both of us if you just tell me what food is in your suitcase" — that the agent recognized him from his cooking shows on the Food Network.

The loss of the black acorn-fed iberico ham too painful to dwell on, he focused on the matter at hand, an ultrasmooth dish of salmon fillets baked with potatoes and drizzled with a winter herb vinaigrette. The influence of the trip was unmistakable: The salmon would be cooked at a low temperature in the shallow terra-cotta dishes from Spain called cazuelas.

As Flay peeled and sliced a second potato swiftly, almost mechanically, we remarked upon his lack of jet lag. He explained that though Barcelona is five hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time, the rituals of daily life in Spain are conducted about five hours later than they are here, so that dinner begins at midnight and after-dinner entertainment past 3 a.m. "If you go to a nightclub in Barcelona at 2:30," he said, "you'll have the place to yourself."

He reached into a cupboard and pulled out two cazuelas, each 8 inches in diameter, and brushed them with olive oil. He then laid six potato disks in the bottom, dabbed them lightly with more olive oil and seasoned them with pinches of salt and pepper. The oven had been heated to 400 de-

gress, and he ferried the cazuelas to it so the potatoes could get a head start on the salmon.

"This dish is oven to table," he said. The salmon would be served in the cazuelas, direct from the oven. Bolo's dining room has an oven station, and some dishes there are also served in cazuelas.

Flay turned his attention to the vinaigrette. He pulled fresh sage, rosemary and thyme from the refrigerator, along with an unruly bunch of flat-leaf parsley, and set them on the kitchen island. "You can't substitute dry herbs in this recipe," he said. "It's all about the fresh here."

He cut the leaves of the rosemary, sage and thyme meticulously from their stems. "These winter herbs are incredibly strong, so you want to chop them very fine," he said. "You don't want a big bunch of sage leaf in your mouth. Stems of thyme can really ruin the texture of a dish, so you want to pick over the herbs carefully."

We asked if he viewed such tasks as drudgery.

"At home, this kind of work is therapeutic," he said. "But I wouldn't want to do it every day. That's one difference between cooking at home and in the restaurant."

And the other differences?

"In the restaurant, I don't have to do the dishes," he said, noting that it is both pot and plate: Just one dish to wash.

As Flay chopped the parsley, he said: "I always use flat-leaf parsley. Curly parsley reminds me of eating on an airplane."

Once he had finished cutting and measuring the herbs, he set them aside and spooned a teaspoon of Dijon mustard into a bowl. He poured a quarter cup of red-wine vinegar over it, and swirled it around with a small whisk.

"Sometimes I make vinaigrettes in a blender," he said. "But this one I'm doing by hand, because I don't want the herbs to dissolve." He slid

the wide end of his knife's blade under the pile of herbs on the cutting board and with one swift motion transferred them to the bowl with the vinegar mixture. "I want everyone to see them suspended in the oil and vinegar," he said.

Flay tossed a pinch of kosher salt onto the garlic clove he was mincing and proceeded to knead the garlic to a pulp with the back of his knife. "A little salt on the back of a knife really helps to crush the garlic," he said, adding the garlic to the bowl.

He poured a third of a cup of Spanish olive oil into the bowl in a slow stream, whisking constantly. "This is something you can make in the morning, and then let it rest until dinner," he said. After a protracted silence, he exclaimed, "This is such an easy dish!" at full voice, to no one in particular.

He set aside the bowl and unwrapped the butcher paper around two skinless salmon fillets. He brushed the fillets very lightly with olive oil and seasoned them with salt and pepper.

After the potatoes had been baking for 15 minutes, Flay removed the cazuelas from the oven and, with a touch, made sure the potatoes were sufficiently softened. He turned the oven down to 250. Using a spatula, he laid a salmon fillet on the potatoes in each cazuela, skinned side down.

He returned the dishes to the oven — "No need to wait for the heat to come down" — and while the salmon cooked, discussed the benefits of the cazuela. "Cazuelas have a very even heat, like the al forno dishes in Italy," he said. "It's not that searing heat that aluminum or stainless steel have."

They are the perfect vehicles for

salmon fillets cooked at a low temperature, Flay said, because they let the middle of the fish gradually heat up, before the edges of the fillet are overcooked. "This way, you're actually poaching the salmon in its own fat," he said.

About seven minutes into cooking, Flay removed one cazuela to check on the fish. The surface was evenly opaque, and it looked done. He touched the fillet at the edges, then in the center. "See how it's firm on the ends, but still flexible in the middle?" he said. "This is not a dish you cook medium rare." He returned the cazuela to the oven. "You definitely want to cook it just through, till it has gelled. One of the best things about a great piece of salmon is the quality of the fat. Serve it rare, and you play down that fat, that flavor."

After 12 minutes' total cooking time, Flay stepped to the oven. "When they come out they should be served immediately, so the warm fish heats up the winter herbs in the oil and radiates this amazing smell. You almost want one hand on the oven and one hand on a spoon for drizzling the vinaigrette."

He removed the cazuelas from the oven, set them on a cutting board and spooned the vinaigrette judiciously. "You don't need a lot of the vinaigrette — just enough to match the flavor of the salmon," he said, then garnished each fillet with a pinch more thyme.

"Oven to table is a festive, relaxed way of eating," he said as the scent of herbs and vinegar and warm salmon filled the room. "It makes the dining room smell good, too."

Not a minute before, the cazuelas had been in the oven, and now we were digging into them with forks. The potatoes were nicely

softened but not browned, and suffused with salmon oil. The fish was moist and flaky, its unctuous fishiness perfectly tempered and skinned by the bright herbs.

We asked him if any of his ancestors were from Spain. Both his mother's and father's families, he explained, were Irish-American going back several generations. Not a drop of Spanish blood. He showed us a black and white framed photograph of a great-grandfather, a firefighter on the Lower East Side, standing on an early fire engine before a row of tenements.

"Are there any Irish influences in your cooking?"

Flay took another forkful of salmon from the cazuela before him. "The potatoes?" he said.

"The potatoes?"

The potato chip turns 150 years old

NAPSI

Perhaps no snack food is more American than the potato chip. And 2003 marks the 150th birthday of this unique treat. The first potato chips were made by George Crum at Moon's Lake House, a resort in Saratoga Springs, New York in 1853.

When a patron complained that his potatoes were too thick, Crum sliced a new batch of potatoes paper-thin, fried them to a crisp, salted them and sent them back out. The fussy patron loved the "crunch potato slices" and snack history was made.

Here are number of other facts about potato chips, courtesy of the Snack Food Association.

• It takes four pounds of pota-

toes to produce one pound of potato chips due to moisture loss when cooking.

• Potato chips first became available in grocery stores in 1895 in Cleveland, Ohio.

• The barbecue-flavored potato chip was introduced in 1954.

• Potato chips are a six billion dollar market in the U.S. The potato chip industry employs more than 65,000 people.

To make potato chip history of your own, try this delicious chicken dish.

POTATO CHIP CHICKEN

1 20-ounce bag potato chips, crushed

1 16-ounce container sour cream

2-1/2 pounds chicken tenderloins

1 tablespoon garlic powder

1/2 cup butter (1 stick)

Salsa (optional)

Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

Place sour cream in a medium bowl

Dip chicken tenderloins in sour cream, then coat with potato chips.

Place coated chicken on greased cookie sheet. Bake chicken 5 minutes, then reduce heat to 375 degrees and bake 10-12 minutes. While chicken is baking, melt butter, add garlic powder. Return oven to 450 degrees and brush garlic butter over each piece of chicken and bake for an additional 5 minutes or until chicken is golden brown. Serve with salsa, if desired.

Makes 12 servings.



POTATO CHIP CHICKEN gets its crunch from a popular snack.

Lenten suppers focus on spirituality — not food — so soup's in

BY CHRISTINA LEE KNAUSS

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Soup's on! That's the rallying cry at many churches during Lent.

Lent, observed by many Christian denominations, is the 40-day period leading to the commemoration of Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday and the celebration of Easter, the feast of his resurrection.

It's a solemn time, when believers are urged to pray, make sacrifices and live simpler lives.

This simplicity carries over into the kitchen, which is why the simple soup supper is a Lenten mainstay at many churches.

"During Lent, you need to feed people something that isn't a glamorous meal," said the Rev. Philip Whitehead, rector at St. Michael and All Angels' Episcopal Church in Columbia, S.C. "Soup fits the bill because it's something that can easily be prepared without meat, and many people try to avoid meat during parts of the Lenten season."

Whitehead's church offers weekly meatless soup suppers on Thursdays during Lent, and holds a special "Agape Meal" on Holy Thursday, which includes lentil soup as a main dish.

At Protestant churches, some soups may have meat in them, but seafood chowders and vegetable soups are very common.

At Catholic churches, many soup suppers are held on Fridays to go along with special Lenten prayers or observances of the Stations of the Cross, which depict events leading to and after Jesus' crucifixion. The soups have to be meatless, because church law requires that adults between the ages of 18 and 60 avoid eating meat on Fridays.

Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church outside Irmo, S.C., will hold special soup suppers each Friday during Lent after the Stations of the Cross. Each week, members of a different church organization will contribute five or six pots of soup to the effort.

Organizer Jackie van Besien said the soups range from potato soup and clam chowders to vegetable soups and oyster stew. The soups are served with pretzels or crackers and coffee or soft drinks.

"The meal is very simple, but that's the whole point of it — we're supposed to ... focus on being together, not on the meal itself," van Besien said.

Geraldine Douglas, a parish-

ioneer at Our Lady of the Hills, has been making soup for the Friday night suppers for about eight years. Her contributions include a pasta/vegetable mix called Pasta Soup and cream of broccoli.

Douglas prepares her soup the night before, refrigerates it, then heats it up in crock pots about an hour before the Friday night suppers.

Cooking soup for a large group isn't a big deal, she said. The key is to have a good basic recipe, fresh ingredients, and an idea of whom your culinary audience will be.

"Seasoning is basically a pinch here and a pinch there," Douglas said. "Season your soup according to who you're cooking for. If it's for my family or people I know, I'll alter the seasonings according to our taste. But if not, I pretty much stick to the recipe."

Soup is a good Lenten meal because it's nourishing but not complicated, Douglas said.

"The focus during Lent is supposed to be on prayer and fellowship, and that's what we get at these meals," she said. "You've got something quick and simple that people can enjoy, but it's not so complicated that they're just focused on the food."

Lenten soup recipes:

CREAMY CARROT-PEANUT SOUP

1 tablespoon peanut oil
1 pound baby carrots
2 ribs celery, chopped
1 large white or yellow onion, sliced
4 1/2 cups water
2 cups fat-free milk
1 pound baking potatoes, peeled and sliced (about 2 large potatoes)

1/3 cup creamy peanut butter with salt

2 tablespoons minced fresh ginger (or 2 teaspoons ground ginger)

1 1/2 teaspoons salt

1 teaspoon white pepper

Place a stock pot over low heat; add oil, carrots, celery and onion. Cover.

Stir occasionally for 8 minutes or until onions are translucent.

Add water, milk, potatoes, peanut butter, ginger, salt and pepper. Cover and bring to a boil. Reduce heat. Simmer, uncovered, until veggies are tender, about 25 minutes.

In a blender, puree soup in batches. Return pureed soup to

clean stock pot. Adjust seasonings. Heat through over low heat. Makes 6 servings.

Source: National Peanut Board.

RUSTIC VEGETABLE-BEET SOUP

2 tablespoons olive oil
2 medium onions, coarsely chopped
2 medium carrots, coarsely chopped

1 medium sweet potato, peeled and chopped

2 large garlic cloves, minced
2 zucchini (about 5 ounces each), coarsely chopped

2 cans (14 ounces each) vegetable broth

1 teaspoon seasoned salt
1 can (15 1/2 ounces) chickpeas, drained and rinsed

Salt and pepper

2 tablespoons each finely chopped fresh parsley and dill

1 jar (16 ounces) whole pickled beets, well drained, coarsely chopped

Gremolata (recipe follows)

In large saucepan, heat oil over medium heat. Add onions; saute about 5 minutes or until softened.

Add carrots, sweet potato and garlic. Sauté 3 to 5 minutes or until mixed well and vegetables begin to soften.

Add zucchini, broth and seasoned salt. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, partly covered, about 15 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Add chickpeas. Heat through. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Stir in parsley and dill. Stir in beets. Serve immediately topped with gremolata, if desired. Makes 6 servings.

Source: www.senecafoods.com.

GREMOLATA

1 tablespoon each minced fresh parsley and dill

2 garlic cloves, minced

1 teaspoon grated lemon peel

Combine all ingredients in

small bowl and serve on top of soup. Makes 6 servings.

Source: www.senecafoods.com.

AUDREY KING'S HAMBURGER SOUP

1 pound ground beef
1 cup chopped onion

1/2 cup chopped green pepper

1 18-ounce can tomato juice

1 cup sliced raw carrots

1 beef bouillon cube

1 teaspoon seasoned salt

1/2 teaspoon salt, plus additional to taste

1/2 teaspoon pepper, plus additional to taste

1 cup diced raw potatoes

2 tablespoons snipped parsley

1/3 cup all-purpose flour

4 cups milk

Brown meat in Dutch oven. Drain off fat.

Add onion and green pepper. Cook until vegetables are crisp-tender.

Stir in tomato juice, carrots, bouillon cube, season salt, salt and pepper.

Cover and simmer about 10 minutes.

Add potatoes and parsley. Cover and cook 15 minutes or until vegetables are tender.

Blend flour with 1 cup of milk. Stir into soup.

Cook and stir until thickened and bubbly. Add remaining milk. Heat.

Season to taste with additional salt and pepper. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Source: "Soup Recipes from the 1994 Wednesday Night Lenten Suppers at St. Michael & All Angels' Episcopal Church, Columbia."

MIXED BEAN SOUP WITH CORNMEAL DUMPLINGS

1 15 1/2-ounce can black beans, rinsed and drained

1 15 1/2-ounce can red kidney beans, rinsed and drained

1 15 1/2-ounce can garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained

1 14 1/2-ounce can crushed tomatoes

1 medium onion, chopped

1 16-ounce package frozen mixed vegetables

4 cloves garlic, minced

1 14 1/2-ounce can broth

1/4 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon chili powder

1 teaspoon black pepper

1 tablespoon dried parsley

Combine ingredients in crock

pot.

Cover and cook on low 8 to 10 hours (high 4 to 5 hours).

At end of cooking, turn crock

pot to high and prepare

dumplings. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Source: "Rival Crock-Pot Slow Cooker Cookbook."

CORNMEAL DUMPLINGS

1/2 cup all-purpose flour

1/3 cup yellow cornmeal

1 teaspoon baking powder

1 tablespoon sugar

1 egg substitute, beaten

2 tablespoons soy milk

2 teaspoons oil

In a medium bowl, stir together flour, cornmeal, baking powder and sugar.

In a small bowl, combine egg, milk and oil. Stir into dry ingredients, mixing until just combined.

Drop mixture by rounded tea-spoonfuls onto soup.

Cover and cook 30 minutes more without lifting lid until end of cooking. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Source: From

Stoneware Slow Co

PASTA

1 small onion

1 large carrot

3 stalks celery

cup)

2 cloves garlic

2 14 1/2-ounce

tomatoes

1 15-ounce

beans with liqu

1 15-ounce can

beans with liqu

1 12-ounce

onion

1 tablespoon

1 1/2 teaspoon

1 teaspoon

1/2 teaspoon</p

angs' 'Vicious Dive' is still in business but is now a very popular restaurant

MARIAN BETANCOURT

NEW YORK — In his 1927 book, *New York*, Herbert Aschner referred to the "Hole in the Wall," a dive at Water and Dover in lower Manhattan.

Aschner, a research historian and former New York City school teacher and McDermott read that a few years ago, he dug into old city records and found that "vicious dive" was a reformed character but still a dive — the city's oldest eating and drinking house, in operation since 1794.

For the centuries it housed saloons, dance halls, brothels and a "Shanghai bar," from which might be kidnapped to crew

day this 3-story wood-frame building is the well-regarded Bridge Cafe. It's a favored dining spot for lawyers, judges and bureaucrats nearby City Hall, people from the National Actors Theatre at Pace University, and neighborhood regulars with a taste for good food and

red with black trim, the small cafe sits at the base of the Brooklyn Bridge on the edge of the Five Points neighborhood depicted vividly in the current movie *City of New York*.

The kitchen now stands

use to be a wharf, but later added a couple of blocks to a growing city.

You can feel the history around

the restaurant's sloping floor,

ceiling and brass rail. The

old two centuries of secrets,

plus photos and paintings of

Brooklyn Bridge, and the last

license issued from New York

State took over that

1886

There's also a charming photo of

Jane Wurprin and her late hus-

band Jack kissing in front of the cafe

they bought it in 1979. Their

team now runs the operation

mother.

The cafe is in the Seaport Historic

district, along with other landmark

establishments. Among them

is the Hotel, where

Edison stopped while he

was working on the city's first electric

plant nearby. Carmine's, a

popular waterfront bar and

is celebrating its centennial

anniversary.

Card Planas, the Bridge Cafe's

chef, relishes the pungent

smell of the Fulton Fish Market,

or two away. He often shops

for pre-dawn hours when

stocks of freshly caught fish are

loaded.

He changes it each season. "The

winter is nature's down time," he

said, so that's the shortest menu. "I

Having the fish market so close can also be a godsend when Planas runs out of fish in the middle of a particularly hectic lunch service, he says.

He remembers calling his fishmonger in a panic — "Can you give me a pound of salmon? I'll be there in two minutes." He's been seen more than once running up the street with a large fish in his arms.

Fish always has a place on his menu. "There are a thousand things you can do with one fish," says Planas, who at 28 is one of the city's youngest executive chefs.

Planas, a Cuban-American Miami transplant, may be young, but he's been cooking for 20 years. He learned when he was 8 and his parents divorced. "When my brother and I visited my father, he only knew how to order pizza," so out of self-preservation Planas learned to cook. He credits his mom as the source of his baking expertise.

Both parents have eaten at the Bridge Cafe and it amuses Planas that each one claims credit for their son's career choice.

Planas literally cooked his way up the East Coast. In the Washington, D.C., area where he lived as a teenager, he began working after school in a grocery and butcher shop, and then in restaurants peeling potatoes and washing dishes, gradually learning the business. His training grounds included Washington's Jean Louis and the Red Sage, then Pier 5 and the Polo Grill in Baltimore.

In New York City, he got more formal education at the French Culinary Institute, and learned about fish when he worked at Aquagrill, a seafood restaurant in SoHo. He was the sous chef at Tavern on the Green before taking on the Bridge Cafe.

He's recreated the cafe's menu, adding his signature to two longtime favorites that are still on it. Buffalo steak and soft shell crabs. The restaurant may be in the city's oldest such building, but the cuisine is new and cutting edge.

He changes it each season. "The winter is nature's down time," he said, so that's the shortest menu. "I

have a charm photo of Jane Wurprin and her late husband Jack kissing in front of the cafe they bought it in 1979. Their team now runs the operation mother.

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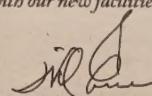
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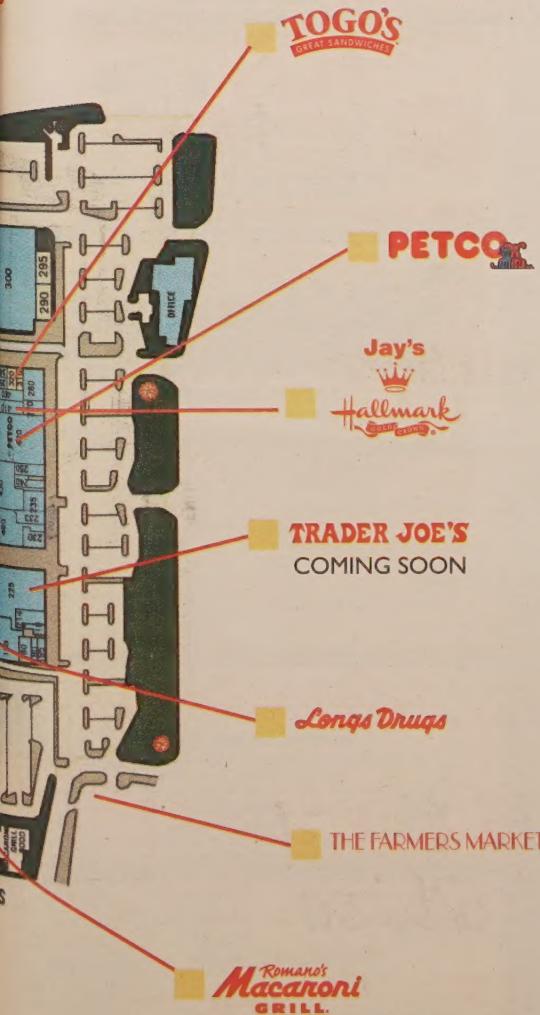
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